## JOHN POWELL PLANTATION (7K-C-203H) - RESULTS OF FIELD INVESTIGATIONS AND ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

Phase III data recovery operations at 7K-C-203H consisted of three separate steps: (1) sampling the plow zone (Figure 52), (2) mechanical stripping of the remainder of the plow zone from the site, and (3) identifying and excavating all subsurface cultural features. Each step built upon the results of the preceding one, and the data recovery plan and excavation procedures were updated accordingly. The results of each part of the field investigation and intersite analyses follow.

Feature excavation began with the mechanical removal of the plow zone over the entire site. A tracked grade-all was used to strip a 200- x 200-foot (40,000 square feet) area. A total of 117 archaeological features were identified. One severely eroded prehistoric feature of unknown age was located and excavated. The plow zone over the site was a consistent dark brown, moderately organic coarse sandy loam approximately 0.8 feet thick. Most of the site was significantly eroded and coarse sand and gravels were encountered in both the plow zone and the subsoil. The underlying subsoil was a coarse, gravelly yellow- to red-brown clayey sand and gravel.

Eighty-two of the 117 features at the site were historical late seventeenth and early eighteenth century cultural features. The remaining 35 features proved to be non-cultural upon excavation. All of the features at the site were completely excavated. A summary of all the archaeological features tested during Phase III operations at the Powell Plantation is given in Appendix IV. The location of all the features and major historical elements of the site are shown in Attachment II.

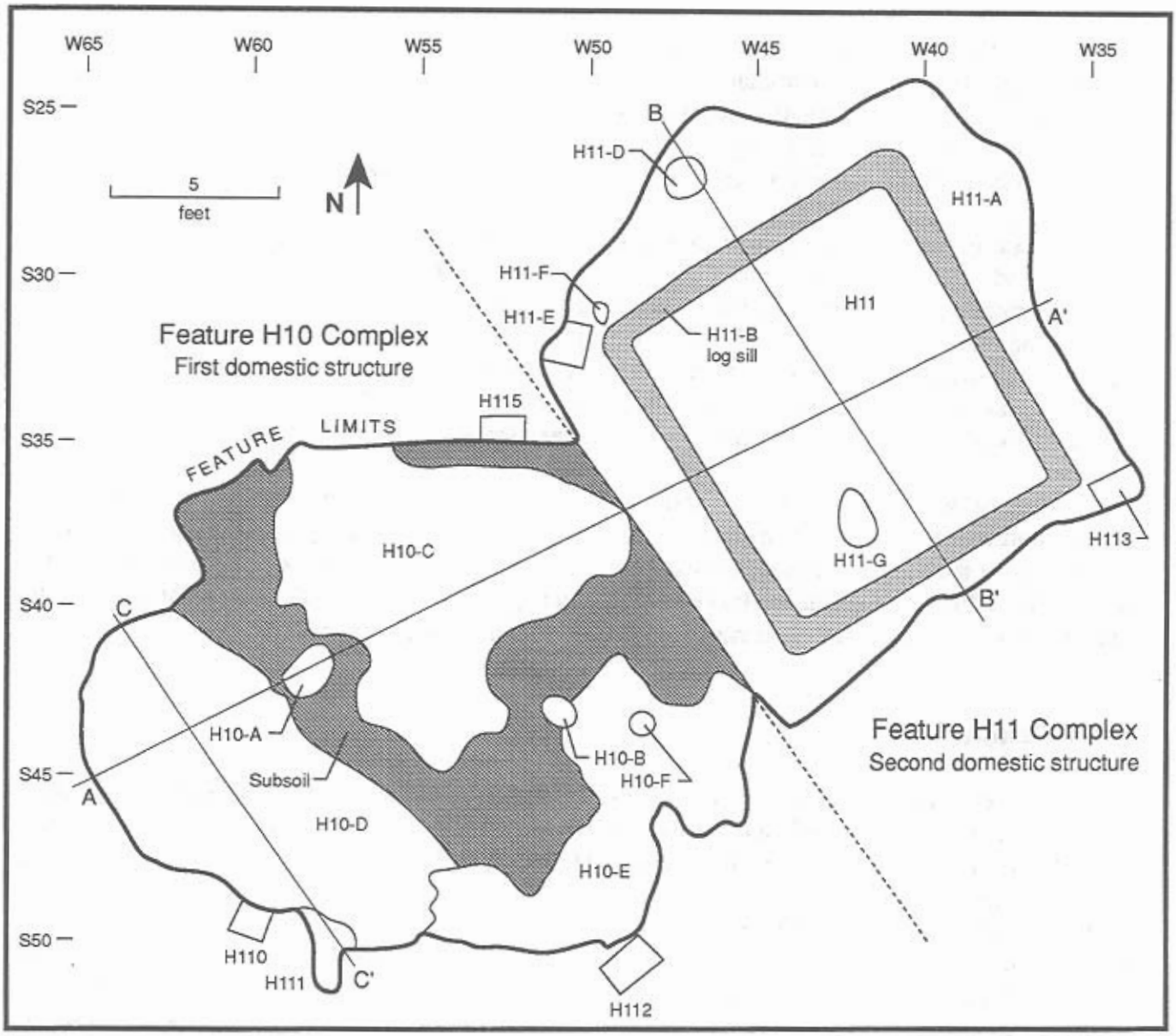
### House Features

Phase III testing identified the remains of two late seventeenth and early eighteenth century occupations of the site. The first occupation of the site was by John Powell and his family from ca. 1691-1721. The remains of a dwelling (Feature H10 complex), three outbuildings (Outbuildings I, II, and III), and a well (Feature H39) from the first occupation were identified (Attachment II). The second occupation of the site was by unknown tenants from ca. 1722-1735. The tenants were probably members of the Pugh and Powell families. The remains of a second earthfast dwelling, the Feature H11 complex, constructed alongside the first house is the primary evidence of the second occupation. At least two outbuildings (Outbuildings IV and V), one trash pit (Feature 47) and several fencelines date to the second occupation (Attachment II). The remains of five daub/trash pits and three fencelines were identified at the Powell Plantation. Except for Feature H47, all of the daub/trash pits were unstratified and contained relatively non-diagnostic early eighteenth century artifacts that could not be attributed to either occupation.

The primary archaeological evidence of the first domestic structure at the Powell Plantation was the Feature H10 complex, a 18- x 18-foot area of shallow storage pits and a hearth/chimney stain. The second domestic structure was marked by the Feature H11 complex. The Feature H11 complex consisted of the remains of logs sills, builder's trenches, and structural posts of an approximately 15- x 15-foot structure. The Feature H11 structure was located adjacent to the east wall of the Feature H10 structure.

FIGURE 53

# Final Plan View of Features H10 and H11, John Powell Plantation

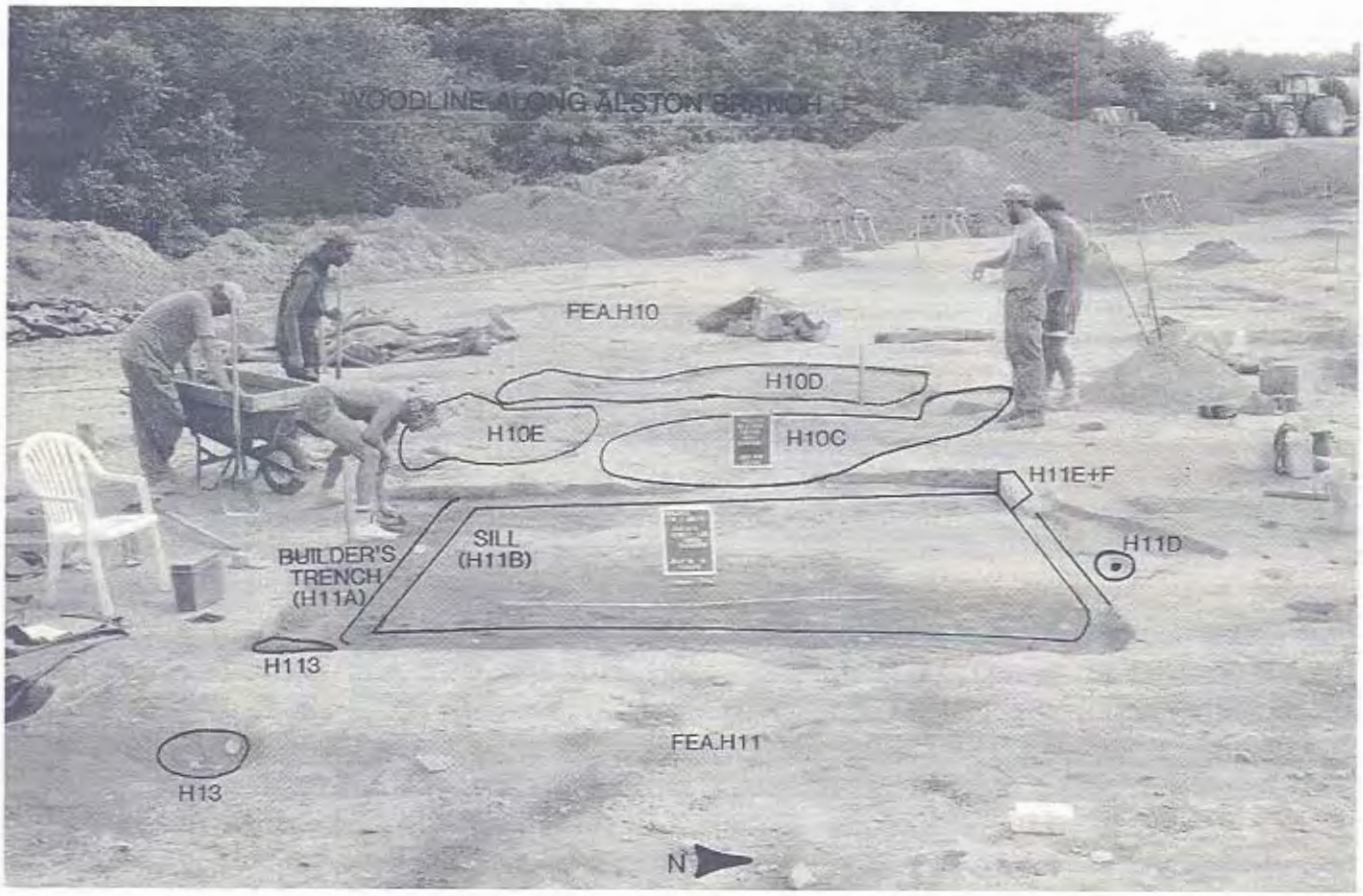



Archaeological evidence indicates that the Feature H11 structure was constructed after Feature H10. A detailed plan view of the entire 18- x 36-foot "foot print" of the two Powell houses is shown in Figure 53 and Plate 20. A summary of all the features associated with both structures is given in Appendix IV.

No intact structural posts or other foundation elements were identified for the first domestic structure. The Feature H10 complex consisted of the remains of shallow storage pits and a chimney/hearth stain. The poorly-preserved remains of this structure suggest that it was abandoned prior to the construction of the second dwelling. The chimney/hearth of Feature H10 in particular appears to have been robbed of reusable materials. All of the structural features within the first domestic structure were

PLATE 20

# Features H10 and H11 (Houses), John Powell Plantation



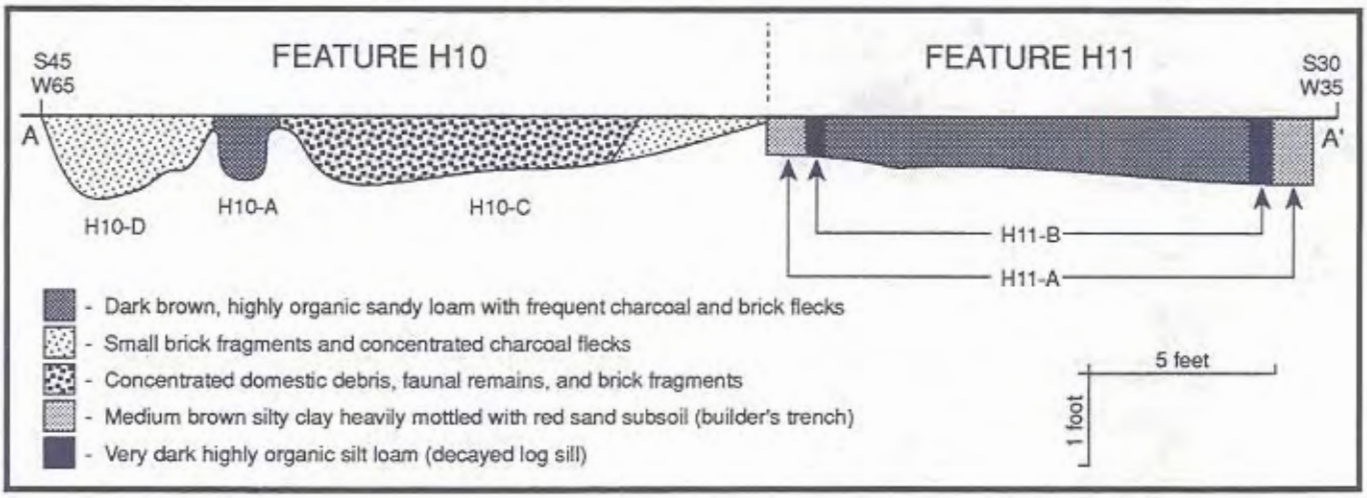

then filled with household trash from both occupations of the site. The stratigraphic record of the construction and abandonment sequence at the Powell house was blurred by additional deposits of household debris made when the entire site was abandoned ca. 1735. More than 2 1/2 centuries of subsequent plowing and erosion further mixed the stratigraphic record of occupation.

The excavation of both domestic structures began with the removal of a single arbitrary 0.25-foot level of both Features H10 and H11. The edges of both features were indistinct and the division between them was not visible until this single level was removed. Seven additional features were found in Feature H10: H10A, H10B, H10C, H10D, H10E, H10F, and H111 (Appendix IV). Six features were found inside Feature H11: H11A, H11B, H11D, H11E, H11F, and H11G (Appendix IV). All thirteen features were excavated separately.

An east-west profile of Features H10 and H11 is shown in Figure 54. Features H10D and H10A, a possible interior post hole, appear in this profile. Two other small possible interior posts holes, Features H10B and H10F, were also found in Feature H10. All three post holes measured less than 1.3-foot square and extended less than 0.6 feet into subsoil. No evidence of post molds were identified. No stratigraphic evidence about the sequence of construction of these post holes was found.

FIGURE 54

# East-West Profiles of Features H10 and H11, John Powell Plantation



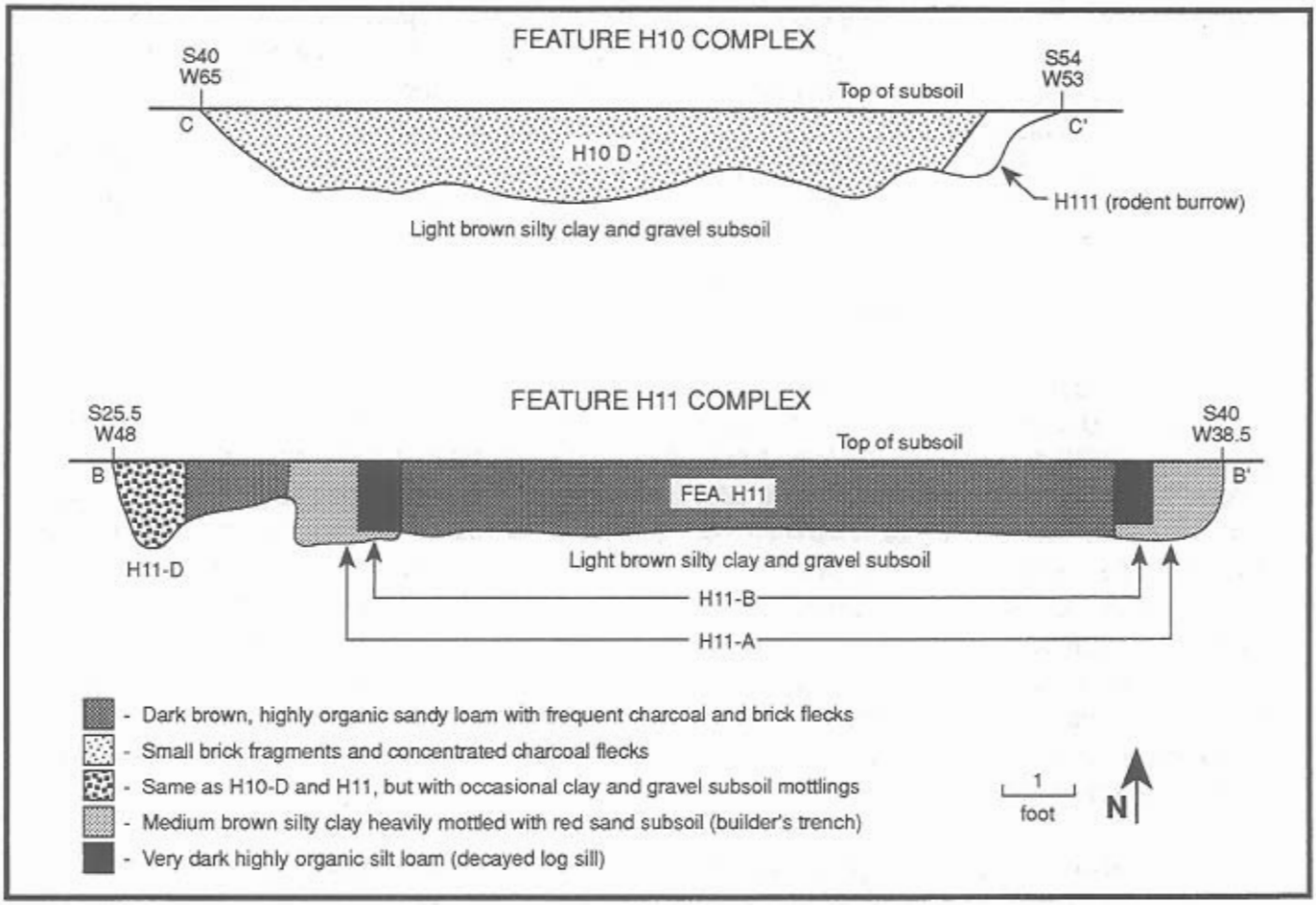

The most important feature in the Feature H10 complex was Feature H10D, the remains of a chimney/hearth. Features H10A, H10B, and possibly H10F were the remains of small interior posts. The two remaining features in H10, Features H10C and H10E, were large storage pits probably associated with the hearth. Features H10C, H10D, and H10E appear in Plate 20. Feature H10D was located along the extreme western edge of Feature H10 (Figure 53 and Plate 20). Feature H10D was roughly rectangular and measured 7.5 x 6.0 feet in dimension. The feature was distinguished by large amounts of small brick and charcoal fragments in a dark brown, highly organic sandy loam feature fill. All of the brick fragments were small and poorly preserved, but were substantially more concentrated in Feature H10D than any of the other parts of Features H10 and H11. One slight area of concentrated brick fragments was found near the center of Feature H10D (Figure 53), suggesting that the most intensively used part of the hearth was near the center of the west wall of the Feature H10 structure.

No intact portions of the chimney/hearth were found in Feature H10D. Whatever few bricks lined the hearth were probably robbed when the second house was constructed. A north-south profile of Feature H10D shown in Figure 55. Feature H10D was excavated in arbitrary 0.25-foot levels to the bottom of the feature at 1.1 feet below subsoil. No internal stratigraphy was found in this feature or in any of the other structural features of either Powell house. The two other shallow storage features of the first domestic structure, Features H10C and H10E, were similar in shape and profile to Feature H10D (Figure 55, Plate 20). All three storage pits extended less than 1.2 feet into subsoil and had relatively flat, carefully constructed bottoms. All three features also contained large amounts of highly organic domestic refuse, particularly bone.

Only Features H10C and H10D, however, contained identifiable faunal remains. Feature 10C contained six identifiable cow bones, 35 white tail deer antler fragments, and ten pig bones. The pig bones came from at least two individuals. One of the antler fragments was from a mature six-point whitetail buck. Other identifiable remains included a mandible, atlas vertebrae, and scapula fragment from a mature cow and the left scapula of a pig. All of the identifiable remains were largely complete,

FIGURE 55

# North-South Profiles of Features H10D and H11, John Powell Plantation




suggesting that they were deposited as primary refuse when the dwelling was abandoned prior to the construction of the second domestic structure. No historical ceramics or other diagnostic artifacts dating the fill, however, were recovered. Features H10C, D, and E continued to receive house and yard debris until the end of occupation ca. 1735. No internal stratigraphy was evident in any of these features and the high organic content of the soil attracted numerous rodents who substantially disturbed each feature.

Differences in the mean pipe stem dates, discussed later in this report, between Features H10 and H11, however, suggest that Feature H10 was filled with slightly earlier yard and domestic debris than the second structure. This earlier debris was probably deposited by the initial occupants of the site, John Powell and his family. Four minimum ceramic vessels could be identified from the 31 ceramic sherds found in Feature H10 (Appendix III). Two of the vessels were redware milk pans. Three sherds to a small mottled brown Staffordshire mug on a distinctive gray-white paste were also found in Feature H10. The fourth minimum ceramic vessel was an English tin-glazed twiffler, or small plate, decorated with a hand-painted blue floral pattern. Sherds to similar, but not necessarily identical vessels, were

found in Features H11, H18, and H39. No actual crossmends between Feature H10 and these other features, however, were found. All of the ceramics from Feature H10 were small and poorly preserved. All four minimum vessels were less than five percent extant.

A summary of the features of the second domestic structure, the Feature H11 complex, is given in Appendix IV. The main structural elements of the second dwelling appear in Plate 20. Wooden sills (Feature H11B) were found on all four sides of the Feature H11 structure (Figure 53). Surrounding these sills was a large builder's trench, Feature H11A. The feature fill of both the builder's trench and the wooden sills contained numerous structural artifacts including wrought iron nails, small brick fragments, and occasional pieces of early aqua window glass. Three structural posts, Features H11D, H11E, and H113, were also found in this structure. Profiles of the log sills, builder's trench, and interior of Feature H11 appear in Figures 54 and 55. All three major structural elements extended to 0.75 feet below subsoil. No evidence of interior storage features, such as the oval storage pits found in the Feature H10 complex, were found.

The builder's trench was between 0.5 and 0.8 feet wide and extended to the bottom of most of Feature H11 at 0.5 feet below subsoil. The feature fill consisted of a medium brown silty sand heavily mottled with pockets of orange sands and gray clay subsoil. A total of 116 early eighteenth century artifacts were found in the builder's trench. Most (84%) of these artifacts were small wrought iron nail, brick, and oyster shell fragments. Two sherds of historical ceramics were found. One of the sherds was a fragment of a coarse utilitarian redware storage vessel and the other was a piece of Rhenish blue and gray stoneware. Other domestic artifacts included two small straight pins, small pork and beef bone fragments, and unidentified nut hulls. The presence of this range and density of historical artifacts in the builder's trench confirms that the Feature H11 structure was constructed after the site was occupied and artifacts were available for deposition in the trench. The presence of concentrated structural artifacts, particularly wrought nails, indicate that the Feature H11 dwelling was constructed after the Feature H10 building was razed.

A total of 18 white clay pipe fragments were also found in the builder's trench. The bore diameter of the 12 measurable yielded a mean pipe date of 1718. Although this sample is too small to be statistically significant, the 1718 date is consistent with the ca. 1719-1722 change in occupation after the Powell-Pugh family lost the plantation. No diagnostic ceramic artifacts or other tightly datable artifacts, however, were recovered from the builder's trench. Thus, the exact date of construction of the second domestic structure remains unclear.

The four log sills of the second domestic structure measured between 9.3 feet and 10.6 feet long (Figure 53). The sills, Feature H11B, were the remains of four partially squared logs 0.5 x 0.5 feet in cross section. The feature fill of the sill stains was a dark black silty clay containing large amounts of charcoal and small decayed wood fragments (Plate 20). A total of 24 early eighteenth century historical artifacts were found in all four sills. Architectural artifacts were the most common: nine wrought nail fragments, five grams of small brick fragments, and a small piece of burnt daub or mortar. Five historical ceramics consisting of one small sherd of combed Staffordshire, three redware sherds, and one unidentified earthenware were found. The remaining eight artifacts were two small, heavily worn English gunflint fragments, four oyster shell fragments, and two 6/64th diameter white clay pipe fragments.

The four corners of the sills were excavated separately to identify the sequence of construction. A thin, 0.1-foot thick layer of builder's trench was found under the north and south sills (Figures 54 and 55). No corresponding layer of builder's trench soil was found under the east and west sills. These two sills rested directly on undisturbed subsoil (Figure 54). This difference between the sills indicates that the east and west walls were laid first. The north and south sills were then laid across the east and west logs and all four corners carefully notched and joined. The joints between the four sills were especially visible in the northeast and southwest corners where wood fibers at both joints were visible.

Evidence of the sill joints was not as clearly visible in the northwest and southeast corners of the structure. Indeed, these two corners may not have been adequately joined during construction because two large post supports were added to strengthen the corners. All that remained of the post added to the northwest corner was a large post hole, Feature H11E, and its associated post mold, Feature H11F (Figure 53). The corresponding post hole in the southeast corner was Feature H113. Both of these corner posts appear in Plate 20. Both corner post holes measured approximately 1.4 x 1.2 feet in dimension and were between 0.7 feet and 0.75 feet deep (Appendix IV). Both post holes intruded into the builder's trench indicating that they were added after initial construction. Both post holes were rectangular in profile. The post mold found in the northwest corner post measured 0.7 x 0.4 feet in dimension and extended to the bottom of the post hole at 0.75 feet below subsoil. Only one artifact, a single white clay pipe stem fragment found in Feature H11E, was found in either post hole.

One additional large structural post hole and mold, the remains of a door post, was found in the Feature H11 complex. This door post, Feature H11D, was found near the center of the north wall of Feature H11 (Figure 53 and Plate 20). This post was located outside of the sill and builder's trench. A profile of Feature H11D appears in the north-south profile of Feature H11 shown in Figure 55. No artifacts were found in either the post hole or the post mold of this feature.

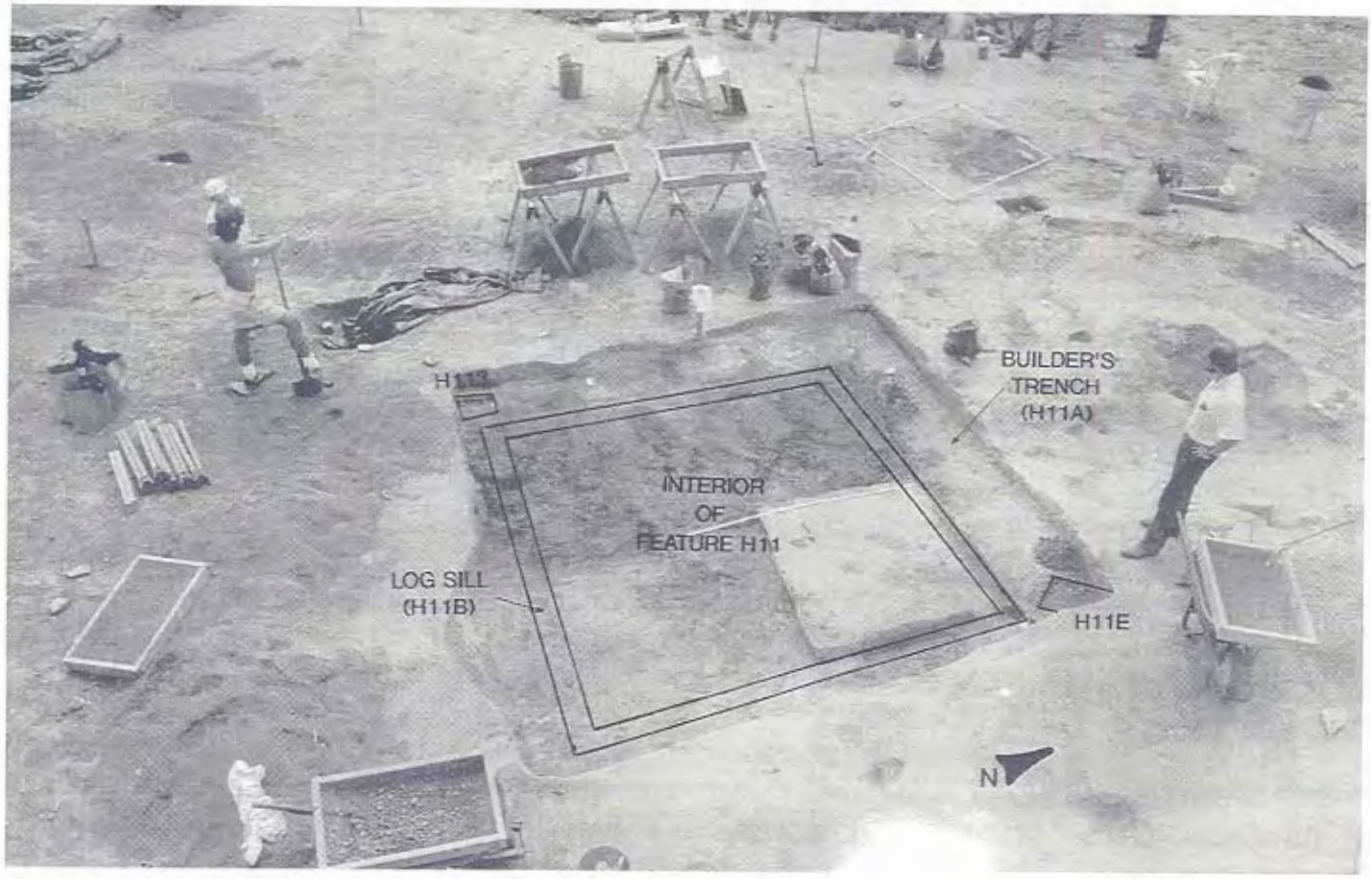
No evidence of a hearth was found in the second domestic structure. Similarly, no evidence of any internal features or significant artifact concentrations were found anywhere in the uniform interior fill of Feature H11. As can be seen on the profiles of Feature H11 shown in Figure 54 and 55, the interior of the structure was filled with a single deposit of dark brown, highly organic sandy loam. Except for uniformly higher concentrations of small charcoal flecks in Feature H10, the fill of Feature H11 was similar to that found in the first house.

The interior of Feature H11 was excavated in arbitrary 0.25-foot levels to the bottom of most of the feature at 0.4 feet to 0.5 feet below subsoil. The bottom of the feature was uniformly flat and extended to the same depth as the builder's trench along all four sides. The southwest and northeast quadrants of the interior of Feature H11 were excavated first to expose the north and south profiles and to provide additional evidence of spatial utilization within the house (Plate 21). Although large numbers of late seventeenth and early eighteenth century artifacts were recovered from this fill, all of the artifacts appear to have been deposited in a single clean-up event at the end of the site's occupation. No discrete activity areas within the house could be identified. Thus, the artifacts from Feature H11 are associated primarily with the second, tenant occupation of the site from ca. 1722-1735. Earlier materials from the Powell family, however, were probably also deposited during the clean-up event.

Although it was possible to determine that the Feature H11 structure was built after the Feature H10 structure, our ability to determine an absolute date for these two features was limited by the small number of temporally diagnostic artifacts. Seventeenth and early eighteenth century historical ceramics

PLATE 21

# Excavating the Feature H11 Complex (House), John Powell Plantation




are difficult to date precisely enough to distinguish between occupations only a few years apart. White clay pipe bore diameters have the potential to yield tighter dates, but only a small number of these artifacts were recovered from the two domestic structures. Despite small sample size, however, significantly different dates were obtained from the two structures. The mean date of the 53 white clay pipe stems from the Feature H10 complex, the first domestic structure, was 1713.2. This date is consistent with a mean occupation date ca. 1706 for the first occupation of the site by the John Powell family from ca. 1691-1721. The mean date of the 106 pipe stems from the fill of the second domestic structure, Feature H11, was 1735.5. Difference-of-proportion tests between Features H10 and H11 found significant differences between the number of 4/64th, 5/64th, and 6/64th diameter pipes (Table 10). While Features H10 and H11 had significantly different mean pipe dates, both features contained similar numbers of early pipes. No significant difference between the number of 7/64th diameter pipes, the largest and earliest pipes found at the site (Table 10). The presence of equal numbers of early pipes in both contexts suggests that the fill over the second dwelling included some artifacts from the first occupation.

TABLE 10

# Test Statistics for Pipe Bore Diameters, Features, H10 and H11 (Houses), John Powell Plantation

Pipe Stem Frequencies

| Feature | Diameter | | | | Total | Mean Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 7/64th | 6/64th | 5/64th | 4/64th | | |
| H10 | 3 | 32 | 18 | 0 | 53 | 1713.2 |
| H11 | 4 | 17 | 74 | 11 | 106 | 1735.5 |

Difference of Proportion Results

| | 7/64th | 6/64th | 5/64th | 4/64th |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feature H10 vs. H11 | 4.32* | 2.43* | 5.71* | 0.55* |

*Value greater than 1.96 and therefore a statistically significant difference given sample size.

A wide range of domestic and structural artifacts was recovered from Feature H11. A total of 2,236 artifacts, including 617 faunal remains, were recovered from the unstratified fill of Feature H11. Almost half (42%) of all the artifacts were small brick and wrought nail fragments. A total of 4.6 kilograms of badly-decayed brick was also recovered from Feature H11. None of the other features at the Powell or Whitehart plantations contained as much brick. Six small fragments of early light green window glass and two small, unmarked lead window cane fragments were also found.

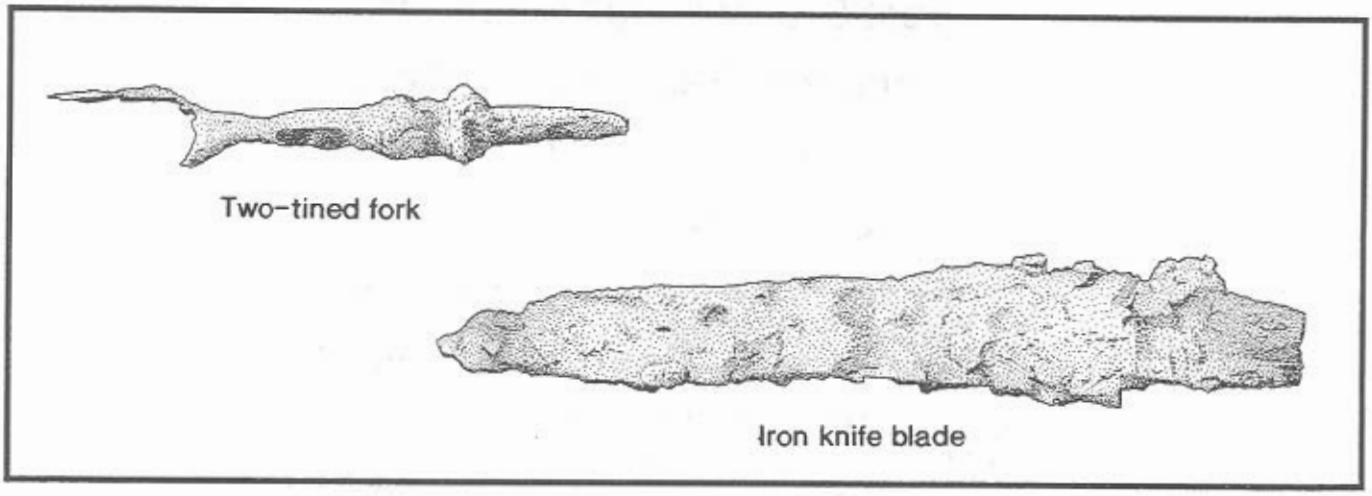
A total of 268 historical ceramics were recovered from the fill of the second domestic structure. Most (76%) of these fragments were relatively non-diagnostic plain and slip-decorated redwares. The remaining 26 percent of the sherds were roughly equal numbers of Staffordshire, English brown salt-glazed stoneware, and English tin-glazed earthenware.

Eleven minimum ceramic vessels could definitely be attributed to Feature H11 (Appendix III). Another 15 minimum vessels attributed to Feature H11 also had sherds found in Features H10, H39, H18, and H47. No crossmends, however, were found between these features. The lack of a clear stratigraphic break between the fills of Features H10 and H11 and the low extant proportion (all less than 10%) of each vessel precluded separate minimum vessel analyses. The 11 vessels unique to Feature H11 were Vessels 2, 4, 12, 17, 20, 21, 29-31, 33, and 40. All 15 of the shared vessels attributed to Feature H11 came from two contexts, the well (Feature H39) and a daub/trash pit (Feature H27).

Redware food storage and food preparation vessels were the most common ceramic form from Feature H11 (Appendix III). Seventeen of the 26 total minimum vessels from Feature H11 were plain or slip-decorated redwares of unknown manufacture. A variety of forms, primarily food storage and

FIGURE 56

## Metal Tablewares from Feature H11, John Powell Plantation




preparation, were identified. These wares included four milk pans (Vessels 2, 4, 5, 7), six crocks (Vessels 10, 12, 14, 21, 22 , and 25), and two jugs (Vessels 1 and 23). Tablewares were varied, but less common: one mug, one bowl, one pitcher, one bottle, and one porringer. All of these vessels, except for one jug and the bowl, were poorly preserved and less than ten percent extant.

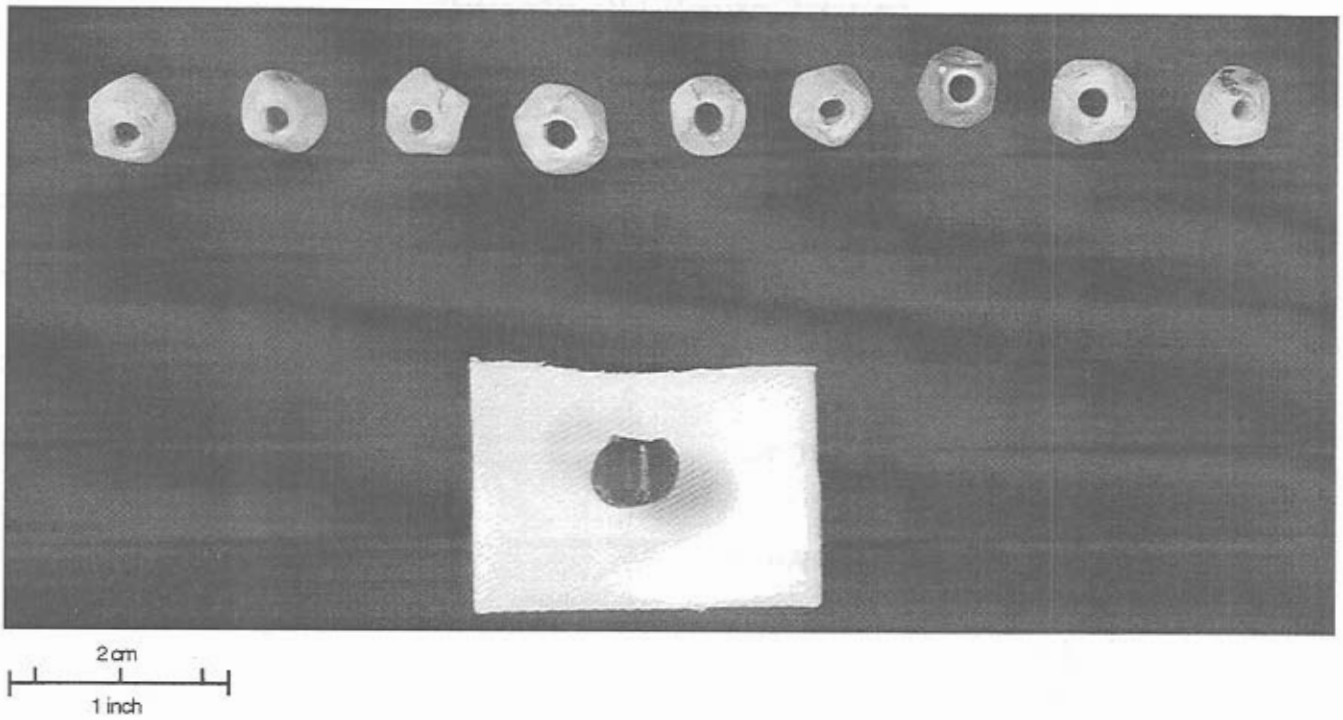
Refined wares consisted of four Staffordshire tablewares, one English tin-glazed earthenware plate, three English brown salt-glazed stonewares and two German salt-glazed stonewares. The Staffordshire tablewares included three brown combed slip cups (Vessels 29-31), one plate (Vessel 33), and one small bowl (Vessel 26). The English stonewares were a mug (Vessel 35), jug (Vessel 47), and Bellarmine (Vessel 48). The two German stonewares were cobalt blue and gray molded mugs. Both vessels (Vessels 50 and 54) were straight-sided mugs. The mean beginning and end dates assigned to all of the vessels from Features H10 and H11 were 1681 and 1745 respectively. These arbitrary dates are based on the archivally known occupation of the site because of our inability to tightly date these early wares.

Other domestic artifacts found in Feature H11 included fragments from a single clear lead glass wine glass (Vessel 5, Appendix II) and fragments of a tanged iron table knife blade and an iron two-tined flesh fork (Figure 56). Two brass straight pins, a copper button with an iron shank, and two small copper alloy shoe buckles were also found. One other copper-alloy artifact, a curtain ring, was also recovered from the fill of Feature H11. The curtain ring was one inch in diameter. The ring was roughly filed and the interior hole was 13/16 inches in diameter. Curtain rings were used to secure cloth to wooden rods and are a common feature on seventeenth century sites in the Chesapeake, including King's Reach on the Patuxent River (Pogue 1990:22).

Eighteen early eighteenth century glass trade beads were also found in Feature H11 (Plate 22). Only one other bead, a blue seed bead, was found in the well (Feature H39). All of the beads were common varieties produced throughout the first half of the eighteenth century. Seventeen of the eighteen beads from the house were simple, wound-glass monochrome amber beads with pentagonal

PLATE 22

# Glass Trade Beads from Feature H11 Complex (House), John Powell Plantation




pressed facets (Kidd Type WIIc5, Plate 22). Kent (1984:216-22) dates these beads to ca. 1690-1760. Fogleman (1991) dates them slightly later, from ca. 1725-1760. The final bead was a simple, round monochrome black glass bead identified by Kidd and Kidd (1970) as type WIb. The bead was one centimeter in diameter. Kent (1984:216-22) dates this type to ca. 1575-1743. Karklin (1985: 41, 46-7) and Fogelman (1991), however observe that such simple round black beads were produced until the second half of the nineteenth century.

A total of 617 faunal remains were found in Feature H11 (Table 11). Except for one horse bone, all of the 92 identifiable faunal artifacts were cow and pig remains. All major skeletal portions of a cow were represented including cranium, vertebrae, ribs, and lower leg bones. Pig remains consisted primarily of cranium, scapula, and lower leg bone fragments. Similar indications of on-site butchering and a dependence of domestic rather than wild fauna were found in other deep features at the Powell Plantation as will be noted later in this report. Most of the remains in Feature H11 were deposited at the end of occupation and can be primarily associated with the second, tenant occupation of the site after ca. 1721. Earlier faunal remains from the initial occupation of the site by the Powell family may have been secondarily deposited in Feature H11. These secondary deposits, however, would probably have been small and unidentifiable.

TABLE 11

# Summary of Faunal Remains from Feature H11 (House), John Powell Plantation

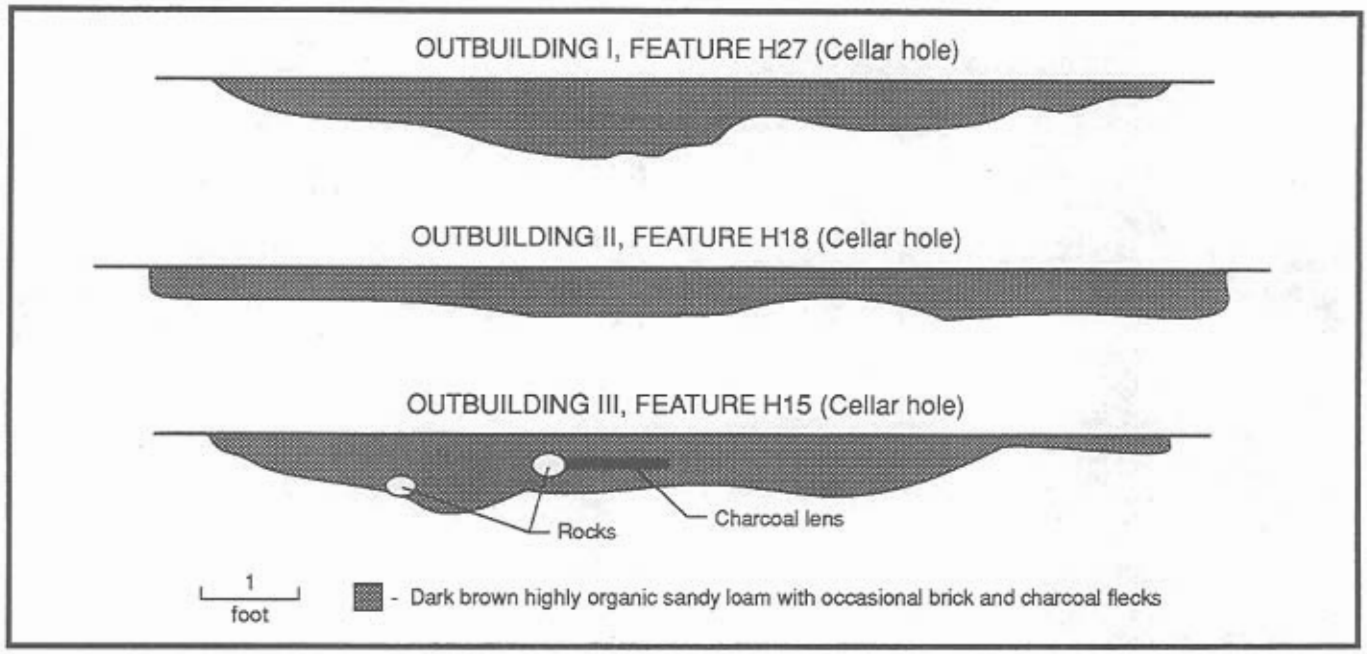
| | | Butchering Marks | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cow | NISP | Knife | Chop | Cut |
| Cranium and mandible | 9 | | 3 | |
| Teeth | 16 | | | |
| Vertebrae | 4 | | | |
| Ribs | 1 | | | |
| Scapula | 0 | | | |
| Ulna, humerus, and radius | 9 | | | |
| Femur and tibia | 3 | | | |
| Metacarpals and metatarsals | 13 | | | |
| TOTAL | 55 | | 3 | |
| Pig | | | | |
| Cranium and mandible | 11 | | | |
| Scapula | 2 | | 1 | |
| Ulna, humerus, and radius | 7 | | 1 | |
| Femur and tibia | 2 | | | |
| Metacarpals and metatarsals | 13 | | | |
| TOTAL | 37 | | 2 | |
| Horse | | | | |
| Metapodial | 1 | | | |
| TOTAL | 1 | | | |
| Unidentified Mammal | 525 | | | |
| TOTAL | 617 | NISP = number of identifiable specimens | | |

## Outbuildings

The remains of five earthfast outbuildings were identified at the John Powell Plantation. Archaeological evidence indicates that three of these outbuildings were constructed during the initial occupation of the site by the John Powell family. These three outbuildings, Outbuildings I, II, and III, were aligned to the first domestic structure at the site and were probably constructed at the same time

FIGURE 57

# Profiles of Outbuildings I-III, John Powell Plantation




(Attachment II). The two later outbuildings, Outbuildings IV and V, are aligned to the second domestic structure, the Feature H10 complex. The largest of these two later outbuildings, Outbuilding V, was a tobacco house built atop one of the early structures, Outbuilding I. This replacement confirms the outbuilding construction sequence indicated by their alignments. A summary of the archaeological features associated with Outbuildings I-V is given in Appendix IV. The primary remains of the first outbuildings, Outbuildings I-III, were large rectangular cellar holes. The cellar holes measured between 10.8 to 14.5 feet long and 5.0 to 8.0 feet wide. These cellar stains were unique to the first outbuildings. No such remains were found at Outbuildings IV and V. Both of these later outbuildings were post-in-ground structures.

Profiles of the cellar holes of Outbuildings I-III are shown in Figure 57. The cellar hole of Outbuilding I was Feature H27 (Plate 23). The cellar holes of Outbuildings II and III were Features H15 and H18 respectively. All three early outbuildings are located 15 to 40 feet north of the Powell house (Attachment II). The cellar holes of two structures, Outbuildings I and II, were oriented perpendicular to the first domestic structure, the Feature H10 complex. The third early outbuilding, Outbuilding III was oriented at an oblique (approximately 70 degree) angle to Feature H10. All three outbuilding cellar holes were filled with a dark brown sandy loam typical of the deep features at the Powell Plantation. All three cellar holes, particularly Feature H18 of Outbuilding II, showed evidence of careful construction. Each cellar had straight walls and a flat bottom. All three features extended less than 0.8 feet into subsoil.

No other structural remains of the three early outbuildings were found. The structural details of these outbuildings are not known, but the consistent lack of nails in the plow zone and feature fills associated with these buildings suggest that they were earthfast log structures with simple cellar storage

PLATE 23

## Excavated Cellar Hole of Outbuilding I, John Powell Plantation

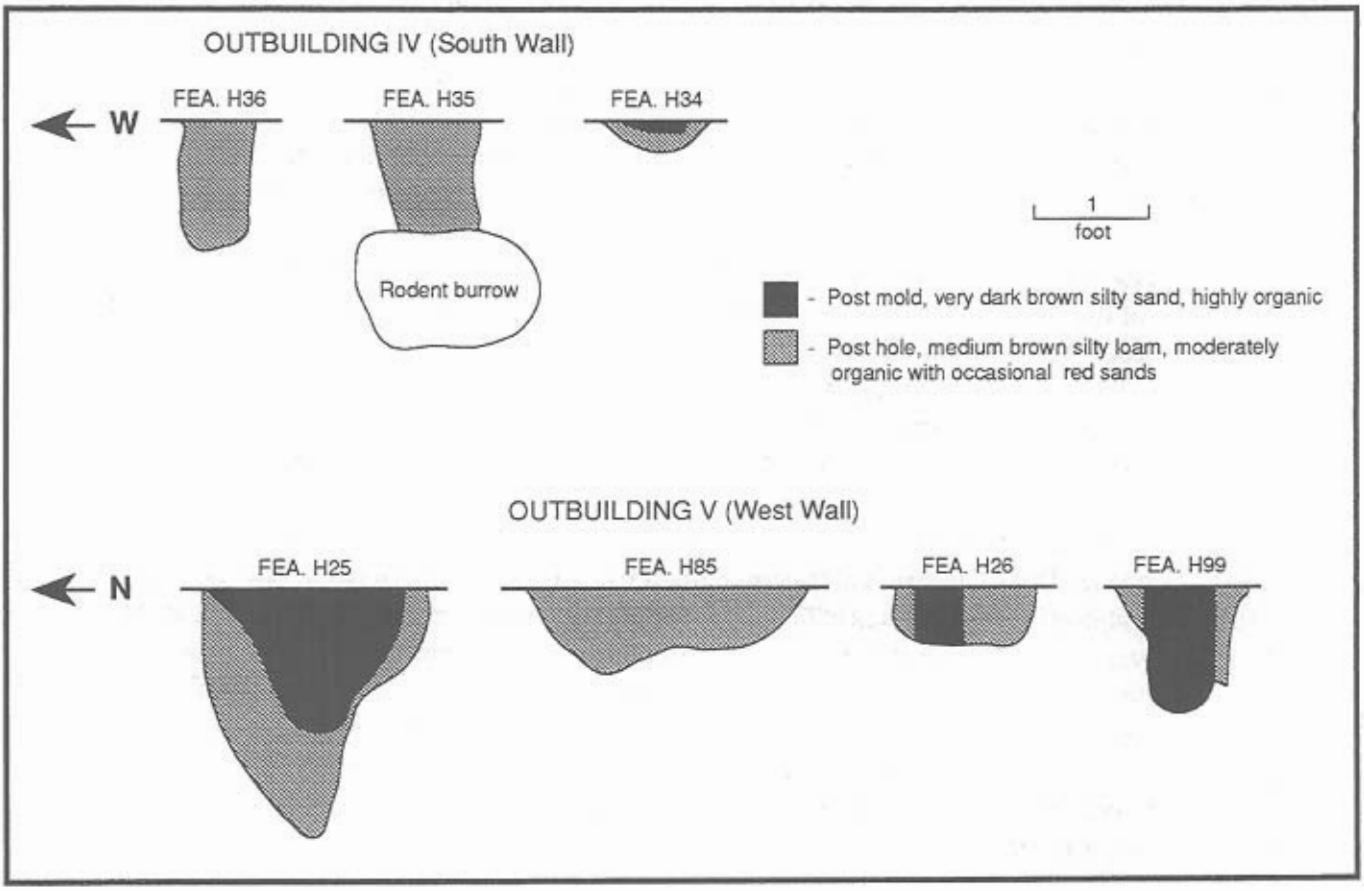
areas. One intrusive post hole, Feature H18A, was found in the southeast corner of Outbuilding II. This post hole, however, was part of a later worm fence, Fenceline A. This fenceline was aligned to the second Powell dwelling.

Relatively few artifacts were recovered from the cellar holes of Outbuildings I-III. Almost all of the artifacts found in these cellar holes were nail fragments and structurally-related artifacts. Of the 138 artifacts found in Feature H27, 126 (93%) were nail fragments. The remaining twelve artifacts consisted of four redware sherds, six white clay pipe fragments and two pieces of unidentified glass. The cellar hole of Outbuilding II, Feature H18, contained even fewer artifacts: eight nail fragments, one piece of flat glass, one brick fragment, one pipe stem, and six small historical ceramic sherds. These six sherds consisted of three pieces of utilitarian redware and three equally poorly preserved tin-glazed earthenware fragments. Feature H15 of Outbuilding III contained only four artifacts. These four artifacts were one redware sherd, one small Staffordshire sherd, two white clay pipe fragments, and one unidentified piece of bone.

Outbuildings IV and V are the remains of two large post-in-ground outbuildings oriented to the second domestic structure. Both outbuildings were built during the second period of construction at the site. Outbuilding IV was located 25 feet south of the Powell house near the well, Feature H39 (Attachment

FIGURE 58

# Typical Post Profiles of Outbuildings IV and V, John Powell Site




II). Outbuilding IV measured approximately 12 x 18 feet in dimension. The primary evidence of this structure was the remains of eight structural posts and one possible interior post. These eight features were H31-H38, and a possible interior support, Feature H103 (Appendix IV).

Soil chemical analysis, discussed in more detail later in this report, identified Outbuilding IV as a barn or stable. The structure was constructed on hole-set posts set at eight and ten feet centers. The building was divided into two slightly unequal bays: a 10- x 12-foot west bay and a 8- x 12-foot east bay. Both bays appear to have been constructed at the same time. The post features of both bays, however, were poorly preserved as this southern part of the site was moderately to severely eroded. Evidence of post molds was found in only three of the post holes, Features H31, H32, and H35. The best preserved posts were located along the west end of the structure near the well.

Profiles of the three structural posts along the south wall, Features H36, H35, and H34, are shown in Figure 58. Features H35 and H36 were simple 0.9- to 1.2-foot square post holes filled with a medium brown sandy loam similar to the fill of the other deep features at the site. Both post holes extended to 1.2 feet below subsoil and contained no historical artifacts. One small brick fragment was found in the post mold of Feature H34. In all, artifacts were found in only four of the thirteen features of Outbuilding IV. Occasional brick and nail fragments were found in Features H32A (rodent disturbed post mold), H33 (post hole), and H37 (post hole). No diagnostic artifacts were found. Forty-two

oyster shell fragments in the rodent-disturbed post mold of Feature H32 and two more oyster shell fragments in Feature H37 were the only domestic artifacts found in the structural features of Outbuilding IV.

One small possible interior post hole was found in the northeast corner of Outbuilding IV. This feature, Feature H103, was an approximately 1.0-foot square post hole extending 0.5 feet into subsoil. The post hole was located near Feature H32, a large, rodent disturbed post hole and two post molds, Features H32A and H32B. The large size (4.1 x 3.5 feet) and dual post molds of Feature H32 (Attachment II) suggest the presence of a doorway. Feature H103 was oriented to this doorway and may have supported an interior partition between the east and west bays of the structure.

Outbuilding V is composed of the remains of a 20- x 40-foot post-in-ground structure 50 feet northwest of the Powell House (Attachment II). The extremely large size of Outbuilding V identifies it as a tobacco house or barn. Outbuilding V was also constructed atop the cellar hole of Outbuilding I (Feature H27) indicating that it was erected during the second period of construction at the site. This second period of construction probably occurred ca. 1720 when the second domestic structure, the Feature H11 complex was constructed. Outbuilding V is oriented to this second domestic structure.

The primary archaeological evidence of Outbuilding V was the remains of eight structural posts (Appendix IV). Three recent intrusive features, two nineteenth or twentieth century post holes and a trash pit/dog burial (Features H23, H23A, and H23B respectively), were also found at Outbuilding V. Preservation of the structural features of Outbuilding V, however, were generally poor. Evidence of moderate to severe erosion was found over the entire western part of the site. Profiles of the four surviving post features of the south wall of the tobacco house are shown in Figure 58. These four features, H25, H85, H26, and H99, were set at consistent 10-foot intervals. Given this interval, evidence of only eight of the sixteen minimum original posts of Outbuilding V were identified during data recovery operations.

Evidence of both post holes and molds were found in three of the eight post features of Outbuilding V. All three features, H25, H26, and H99, were found along the south wall of the structure. As can be seen in their profiles shown in Figure 58, the post molds of the three features varied from 1.8 to 0.4 feet in diameter. The two larger post molds, Features H25 and H99, extended 1.3 feet and 1.1 feet below subsoil respectively. The surrounding post holes of all three post features were rectangular and between 1.2 x 1.5 feet and 2.0 x 1.6 feet in dimension.

No historical artifacts were found in any of the eight structural features of Outbuilding V. The lack of artifacts is consistent with the very low artifact densities (less than three artifacts per test unit) and low soil chemical densities found in this area by plow zone testing. No seventeenth or eighteenth century features were found inside Outbuilding V. No other evidence of interior supports or partitions were seen in the distribution of plow zone artifacts or soil chemical densities.

**Well**

One well, Feature H39, was identified and completely excavated at the Powell Plantation. Feature H39 was located 25 feet south of the house and 10 feet west of Outbuilding IV (Attachment II). The well was 21 feet deep and evidence of a builder's trench was found. Two sets of wooden

cribbing were also found. A profile of Feature H39 is shown in Figure 59. Feature H39 was first identified as a large, 10-foot diameter stain of highly organic silty loam containing large amounts of small brick, bone, and oyster shell fragments. Around the stain was 1.0-foot wide band of gray clays heavily mottled with coarse red sands. The east half of the feature was excavated in natural and arbitrary 1.0-foot levels. The central portion of the stain proved to be the well shaft and the surrounding 1.0-foot band of mottled gray clays and red sands were the remains of a builder's trench. Both deposits were removed separately.

The well shaft and builder's trench were excavated by hand to a depth of 4.0 feet below subsoil. The loose sand subsoil surrounding the well, however, began to collapse at this depth. The rest of the well was excavated by hand and machine (Plate 24). All soils, except for a small portion of the well shaft between 16 and 19 feet below subsoil, were screened. These three feet of well shaft fill were lost due to flooding caused by heavy rains.

Two distinct soils were found in the well: Soil I, the well shaft fill, and Soil II, the builder's trench (Figure 59). The builder's trench extended to 12.2 feet below subsoil. Soil II consisted of a single, unstratified deposit of gray clays mottled with red sands, brown silts, and occasional pockets of moderately organic silty sand. No artifacts were found in the builder's trench. The lack of artifacts suggest that the well was constructed early in the occupation of the site when few artifacts were available for deposition. The well shaft fill, Soil I, was also unstratified (Figure 59). Soil I consisted of a dark-brown, highly organic silty sand that extended to the bottom of the well shaft at 21 feet below subsoil. The upper three feet of Soil I (Excavation Levels 2-4, Figure 59) contained slightly higher concentrations of structural and domestic debris, but no evidence of stratification was found. The well was probably filled in at

FIGURE 59

## Profile of Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

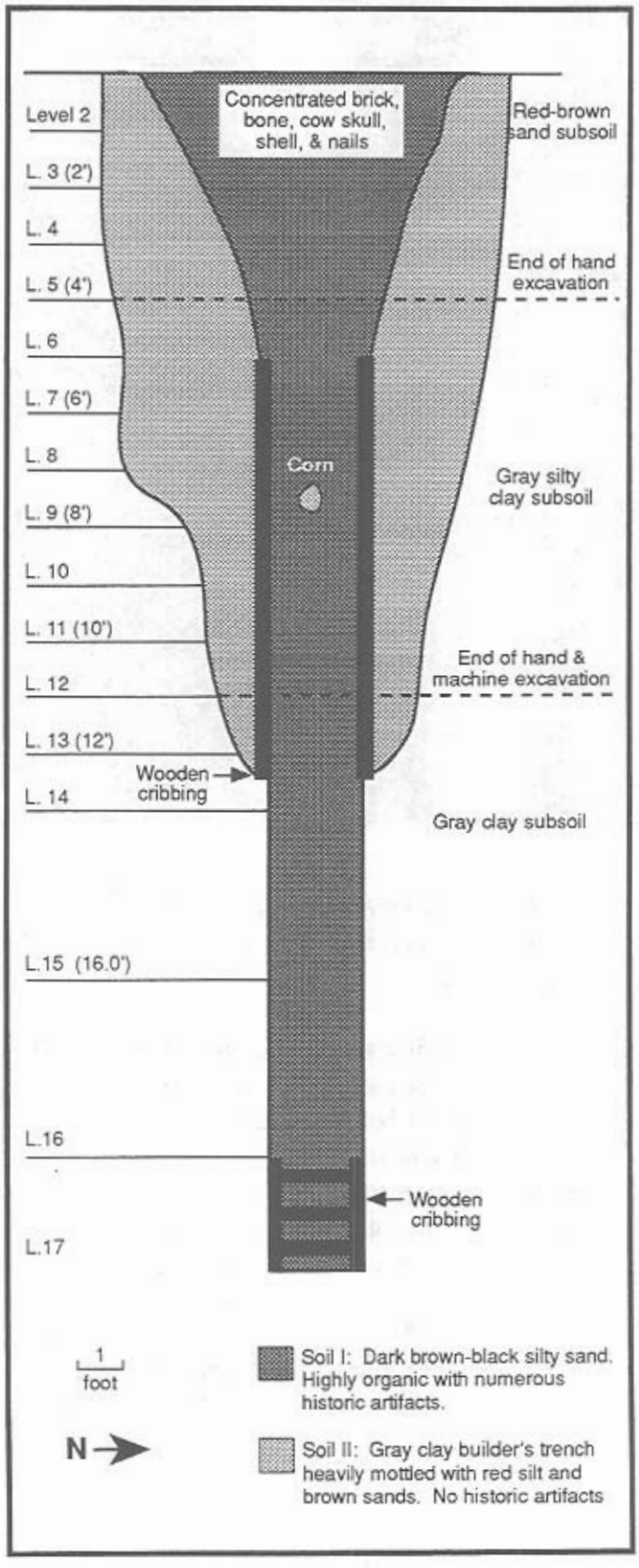


PLATE 24

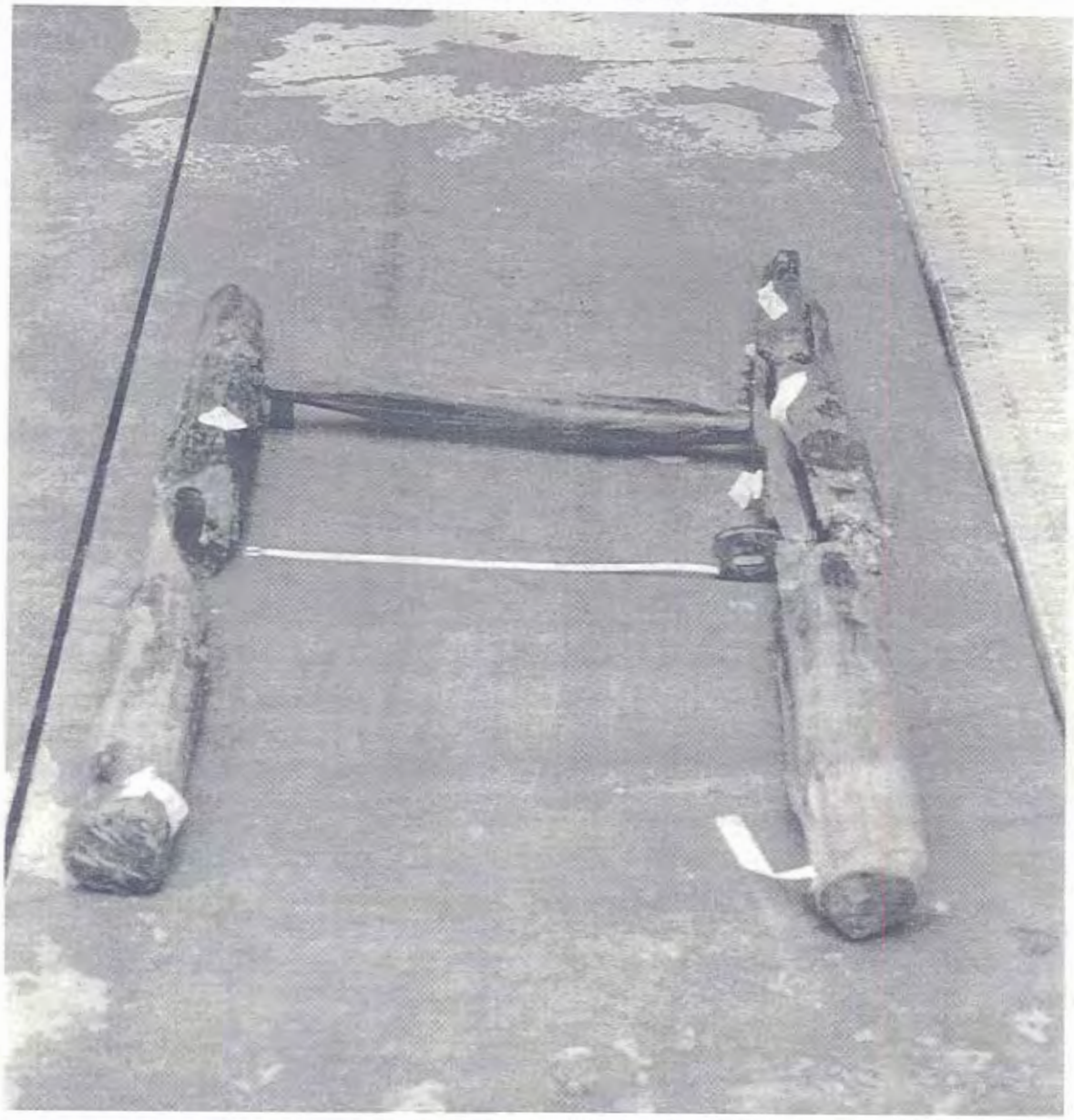
# Excavating Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation


the end of the Powell occupation, ca. 1721, when Thomas Sharp took full possession of the land from the heirs of Ann Powell Pugh. The mean date of the 168 measurable pipe stems from the well shaft was 1720.2.

The first set of wooden cribbing was found at 5.0 feet below subsoil. The cribbing consisted of four 7.0-foot long squared timbers set vertically along the outer edge of the well shaft (Plate 25). These four timbers measured 0.4 x 0.3 feet and formed a 2.0-foot square well shaft. Evidence of at least four mortise and tenon braces between the four timbers was found. No intact portions of these additional supports were recovered. The bottom of the cribbing rested on the bottom edge of the builder's trench at 7.2 feet below subsoil. The next seven feet of the well shaft was not cribbed. The well shaft remained roughly two feet square. The second set of cribbing was encountered at 19 feet below subsoil. This cribbing consisted of four 2.0-foot long squared timbers and several fitted crosspieces. The four vertical posts rested on the bottom of the well. Each timber was the same size as the upper cribbing. The mortise and tenoned supports were also similar in construction. Fragments of three wooden cross pieces from the lower cribbing appear in Plate 26. Four two-foot long oak

PLATE 25

## Wooden Cribbing from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

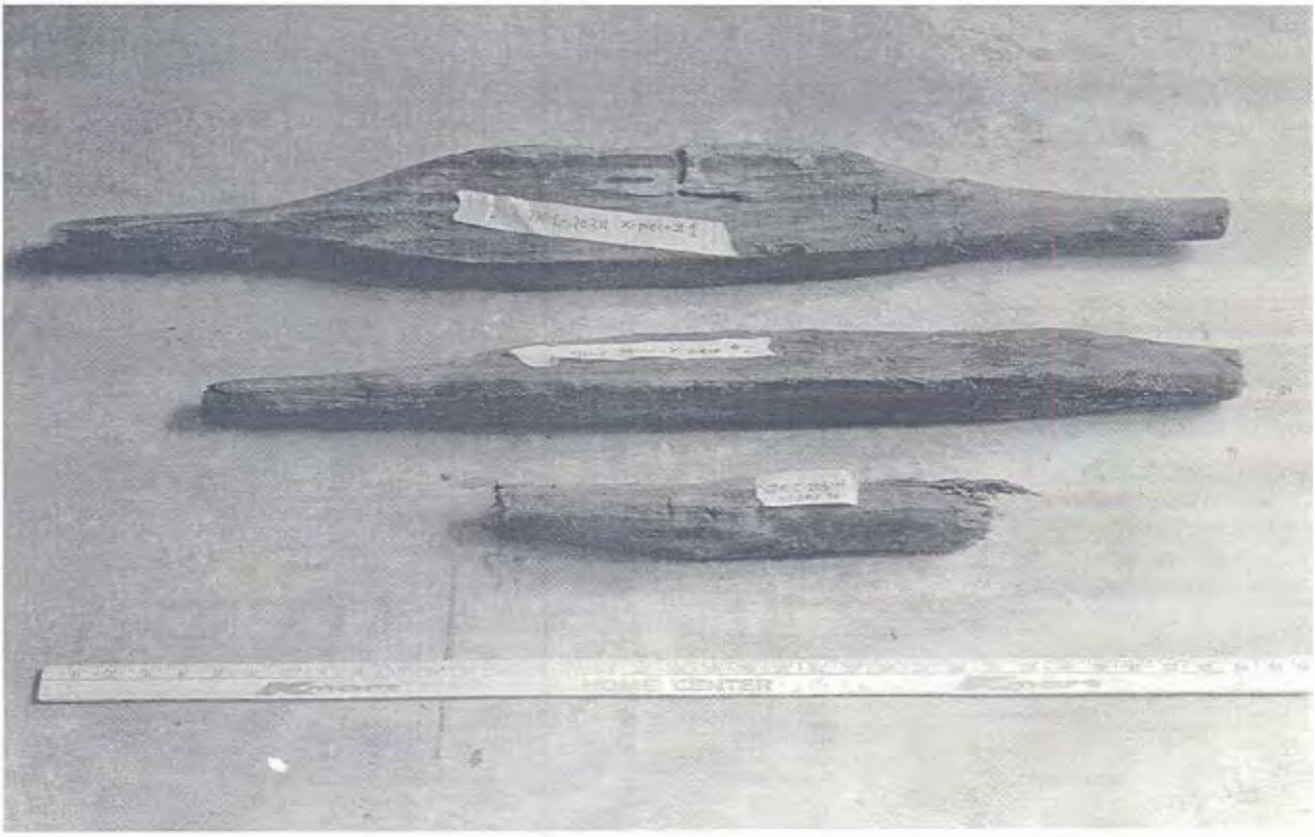


barrel staves were also found amongst the bottom cribbing (Plate 27). No other evidence of a barrel was found in the well. These few staves were probably simply additional cribbing and not part of a complete barrel.

A total of 2,124 artifacts were recovered from the well shaft. The upper three feet of the well shaft (Excavation Levels 2-4) contained 90 percent of all the artifacts recovered (Table 12). Almost all of the artifacts from the upper well shaft were small, relatively non-diagnostic wrought nail and brick fragments. A small number of early light green window glass fragments was also found indicating that at least some of the windows of the first Powell house were glazed. Nail and brick fragments were also found throughout the lower well shaft fill. A total of 212 ceramic sherds were recovered

PLATE 26

# Cross Pieces from Lower Cribbing, Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation



from the well shaft. Twenty-six minimum vessels were identified (Appendix III). Eleven minimum vessels crossmended with sherds found in other features (Vessels 1, 7, 10, 11, 14, 26, 35, 43, 44, 48, and 54). All of the minimum vessels were less than 10 percent extant.

The 26 minimum ceramic vessels from the well consisted of a narrow range of common seventeenth and early eighteenth century wares. All of the vessels were probably used by the Powell family during their 1691-1721 occupation. Fragments of two marked "AR" English brown salt-glazed stoneware mugs (Vessels 36 and 37) were found near the top of the well shaft. Vessel 36 (Figure 60) came from Level 2 (0.0 to 0.5 feet below subsoil). Both vessels were produced during the reign of Queen Anne from 1702-1714. Four other wares were found in the well: utilitarian redwares, Staffordshire tablewares, tin-glazed table and medicinal wares, and German blue-and-gray stoneware tablewares (Appendix III). Eight redware vessels of unknown manufacture were found: three large crocks (Vessels 8, 10, and 14), a milk pan (Vessel 7), mug (Vessel 11), and a large jug (Vessel 1). Except for the jug (Figure 60), all of the redware vessels from the well were glazed only on interior surfaces. The glaze was a clear or amber lead glaze marked with varying amounts of small iron flecks. The rim exterior of one crock, Vessel 8, may have been glazed.

PLATE 27

## Barrel Staves from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

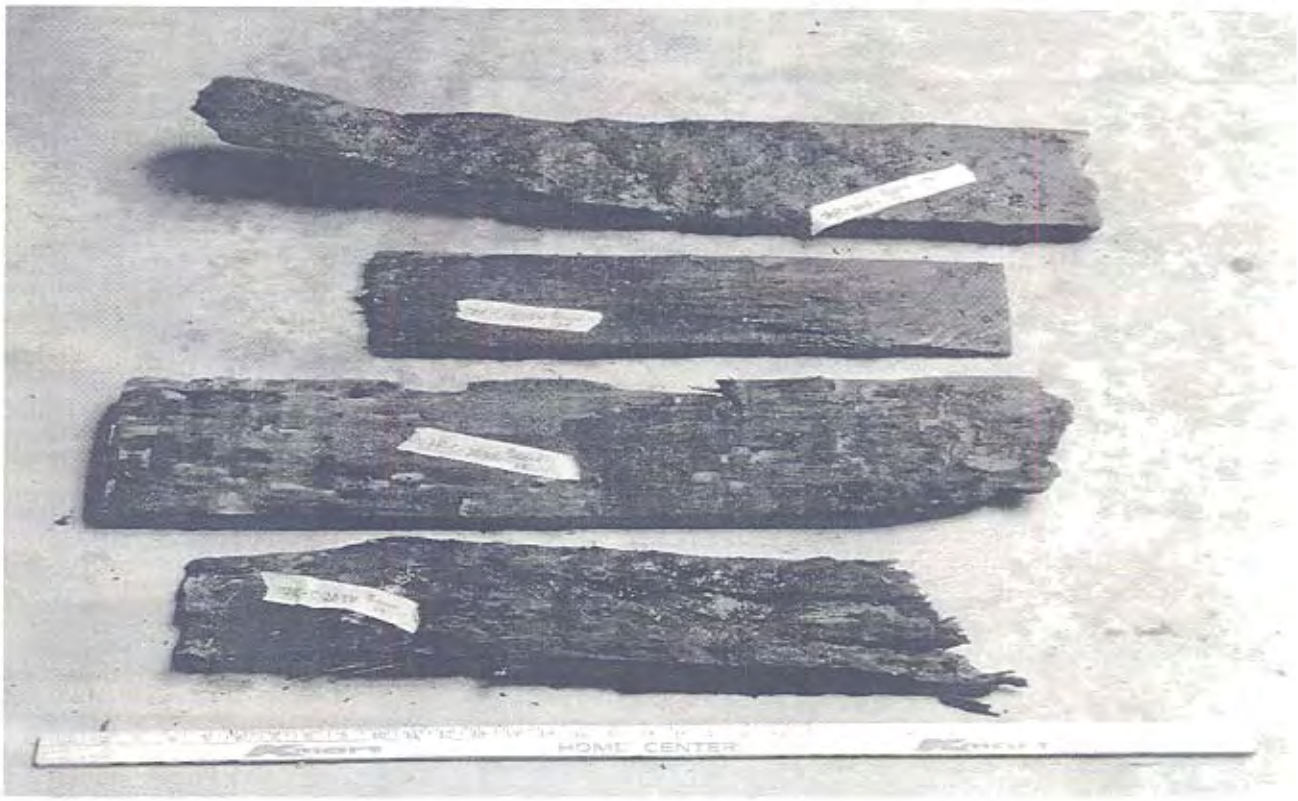



TABLE 12

## Summary of Artifacts from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

SOIL B
(BUILDER'S TRENCH)
No artifacts found

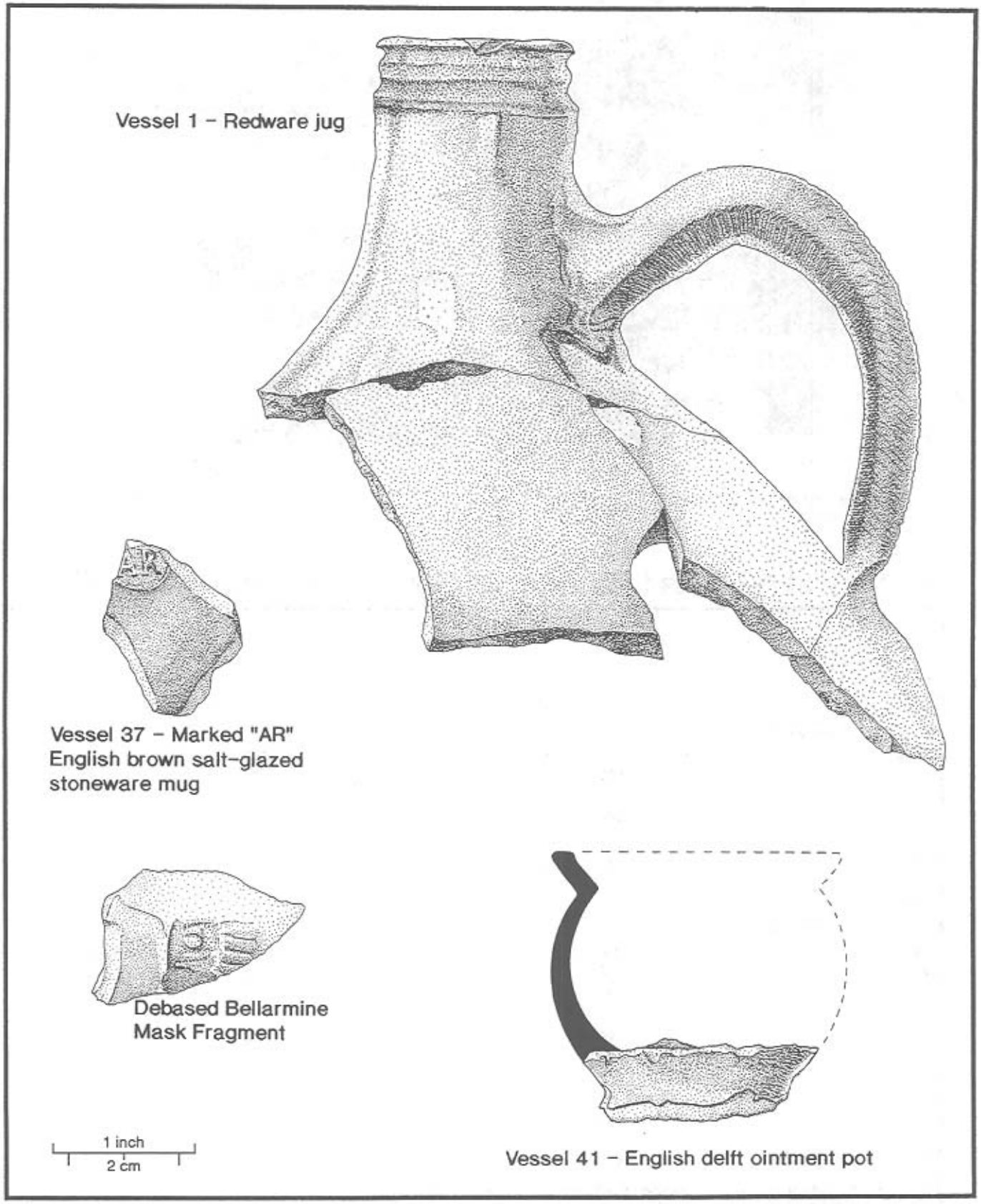
| SOIL C (UPPER WELLSHAFT) | | Architectural | | | | Domestic | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Level | Depth* | Nails | Brick (weight) | WG** | Other | Ceramics | Pipe | Shell | Other |
| 2 | 0'-1' | 543 | 2.2kg | 6 | 1 | 100 | 151 | 66 | 5 |
| 3 | 1'-2' | 318 | 2.2kg | 17 | 1 | 51 | 116 | 183 | 2 |
| 4 | 2'-3' | 149 | 3.9kg | 8 | 19 | 34 | 76 | 24 | – |
| TOTAL | 1870 | 1,010 | 8.3kg | 31 | 21 | 185 | 343 | 273 | 7 |

| SOIL A (LOWER WELLSHAFT) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Level | Depth* | Nails | Brick (weight) | WG** | Other | Ceramics | Pipe | Shell | Other |
| 5 | 3'-4' | 13 | .1kg | 1 | – | 12 | 20 | 12 | – |
| 6 | 4'-5' | 35 | .4kg | 2 | – | 1 | 5 | 8 | – |
| 7 | 5'-6' | 6 | .1kg | 1 | – | 1 | 3 | 8 | – |
| 8 | 6'-7' | 29 | .1kg | – | – | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 9 | 7'-8' | 10 | .1kg | 1 | – | 4 | 4 | 1 | – |
| 10 | 8'-9' | 10 | – | – | – | 3 | 3 | 49 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 254 | 103 | .8kg | 5 | 0 | 27 | 38 | 79 | 2 |

*Depth below subsoil **Window Glass

Note: Feature fill below Level 10 sampled. Shell category includes faunal remains.
Domestic category does not include prehistoric artifacts.

# FIGURE 60
# Ceramic Vessels from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation



English tin-glazed earthenware was the next most common ware found in the well. Five minimum vessels were identified: a small ointment pot (Vessel 41) and four small plates or twifflers (Vessels 42-45). The ointment pot (Figure 60) was undecorated, but only the base was found. The footring of the vessel is identical to an ointment pot dated from 1680-1710 by Noel Hume 1970: 205, Figure 67). The four plates were decorated with blue underglaze painted designs. All of the vessels are common wares similar to English tin-glazed pieces found in Virginia (Noel Hume 1970).

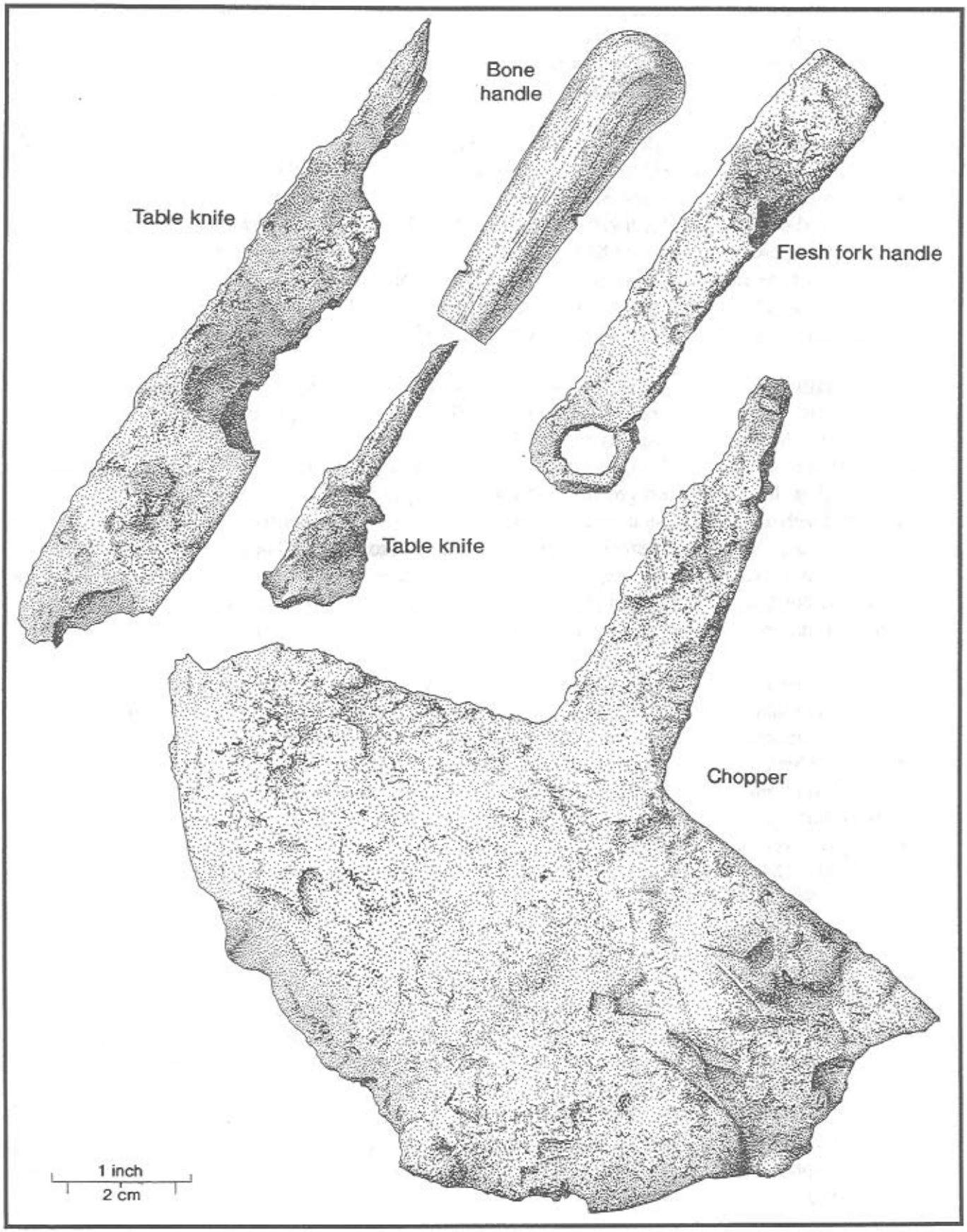
English brown salt-glazed stonewares were the third most common ware found in the well. Five minimum vessels were identified (Appendix III). In addition to the two marked mugs, two other, unmarked mugs (Vessels 35 and 38) were found. Vessel 35 was the only specimen with a rouletted rim. All of the mugs probably had similar brown iron slips. All of the brown stoneware vessels were less than five percent extant. The fifth English brown salt-glazed stoneware vessel was a Bellarmine. Fragments of the Bellarmine, Vessel 48, were also found in Feature H10. Part of a debased mask (Figure 60) was found indicating a relatively late date of ca. 1730 for the ware (Noel Hume 1970). Such vessels, however, were produced as early as 1672.

Staffordshire and German blue-and-gray stonewares were equally represented in the well. Four vessels of each ware were found (Appendix III). Cups and mugs were the most common form. Three of the Staffordshire vessels and all four of the German stonewares were mugs. The fourth Staffordshire vessel (Vessel 26) was a shallow, white and brown trailed slip-decorated bowl with a bright yellow lead glaze and green and brown under-glaze spots. The German stonewares were decorated with bright cobalt-blue panel molded floral patterns. The Staffordshire mug (Vessel 32) and one of the cups (Vessel 28) were decorated with combed brown slip. The combed slip was very fine suggesting a late seventeenth to early eighteenth century date of manufacture. The other Staffordshire cup was decorated with a mottled brown lead glaze over a soft buff paste. Both types of decoration were in common use throughout the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

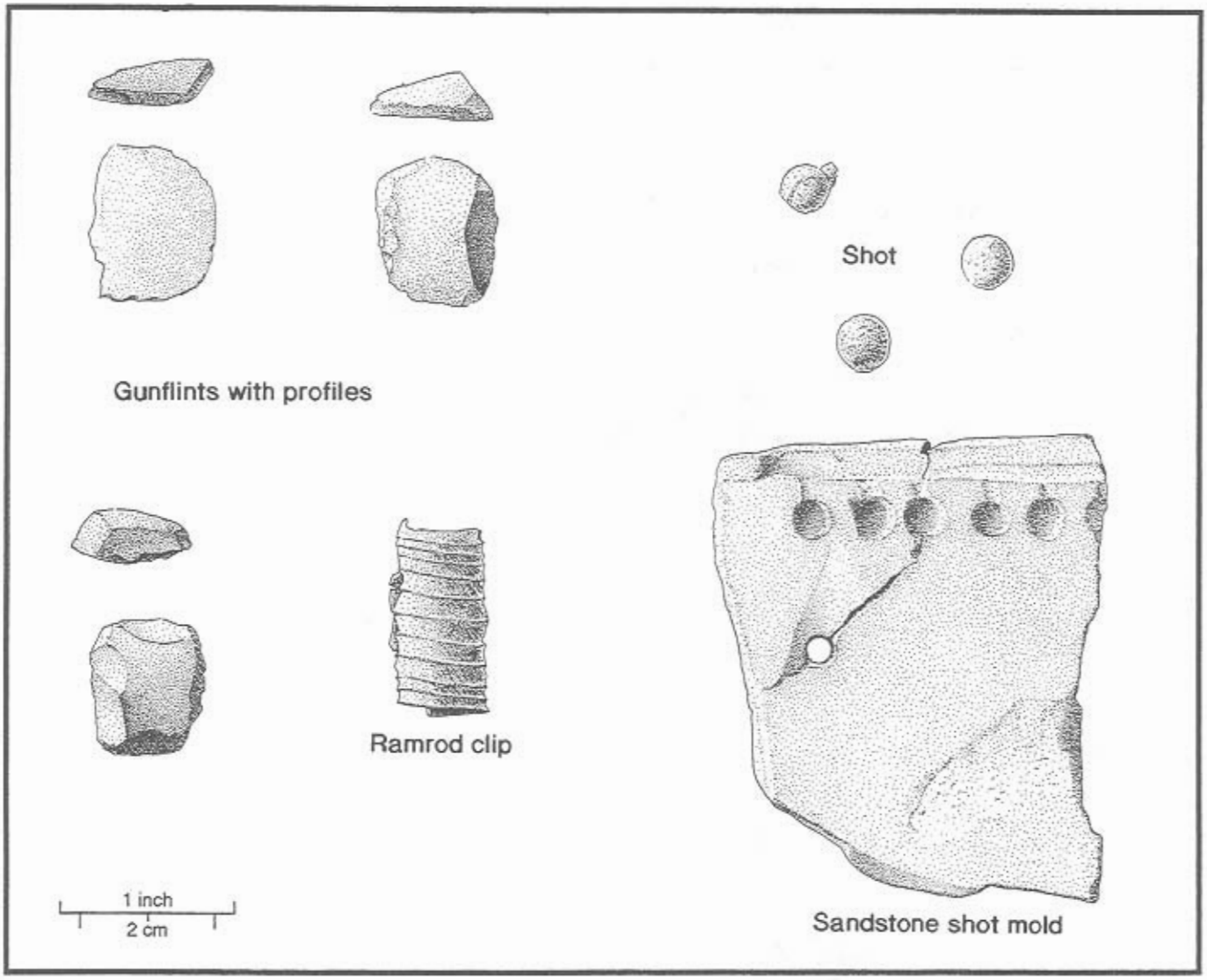
The well shaft fill also contained a large variety of domestic artifacts (Figure 61). Oyster shell and faunal remains were also common indicating that the well received household garbage near the end of occupation. A range of domestic artifacts including an ivory table knife handle and iron tang fragment, a brass thimble fragment, part of a brass ink well lid, and two filed brass curtain rings were found. Part of one other table utensil, a curved blade chopper, was also found. Also recovered from the well shaft were a hammered copper alloy ram-rod guide (Figure 62), iron snaffle, and four small, poorly preserved pewter and copper alloy buttons. Part of a iron claw hammer was also recovered (Figure 63). One single glass bead, a blue glass seed bead dating to ca. 1700-1803, was also found (Type C1, Stone 1974: 111-12).

A total of 133 small, poorly preserved olive and clear lead glass fragments were found in the well shaft. Relatively little window glass was found over the entire Powell Plantation. The well contained 92 percent of the 158 total glass artifacts found at the site. Eleven of the 15 total minimum glass vessels from the site came from the well (Appendix II). Four of the 11 minimum glass vessels from the well were stemmed wine glasses. The glasses were made of free-blown clear lead (Vessels 1-3) and non-lead glass (Vessel 4). The stems of at least one of the glasses was ornate and contained a large air bubble (Figure 64). The remains of four free-blown olive wine bottles were also found. Three of the bottles (Figure 64) had the characteristic sanded pontil and high kick-up of English "onion-shaped" bottles (Noel Hume 1970). Fragments of one other liquor bottle, a square case gin bottle (Vessel 6) was also identified.

# FIGURE 61
## Kitchen Utensils, John Powell Plantation



# FIGURE 62
## Arms-Related Artifacts, John Powell Plantation




Two other minimum glass vessels were found in the well shaft. One was a small, square based olive snuff bottle (Vessel 12). The snuff bottle had been dip-molded and was probably made in England. The second minimum vessel was a small conical ink bottle (Vessel 8). The ink bottle was made of free-blown olive glass. None of the 11 minimum glass vessels from the well could be dated precisely. All of the vessels, particularly the five liquor bottles were probably made in England. All of the vessels, including the ink and snuff bottles were produced throughout the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

Most of the faunal remains found in the well came from the upper three feet of the well shaft or from the very bottom of the well at 21 feet below subsoil. A total of 3039 faunal remains were found in Feature H39 (Table 13). Only 633 (21%) of these remains, however, were identifiable at the

FIGURE 63

Claw Hammer and Bone Handle from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

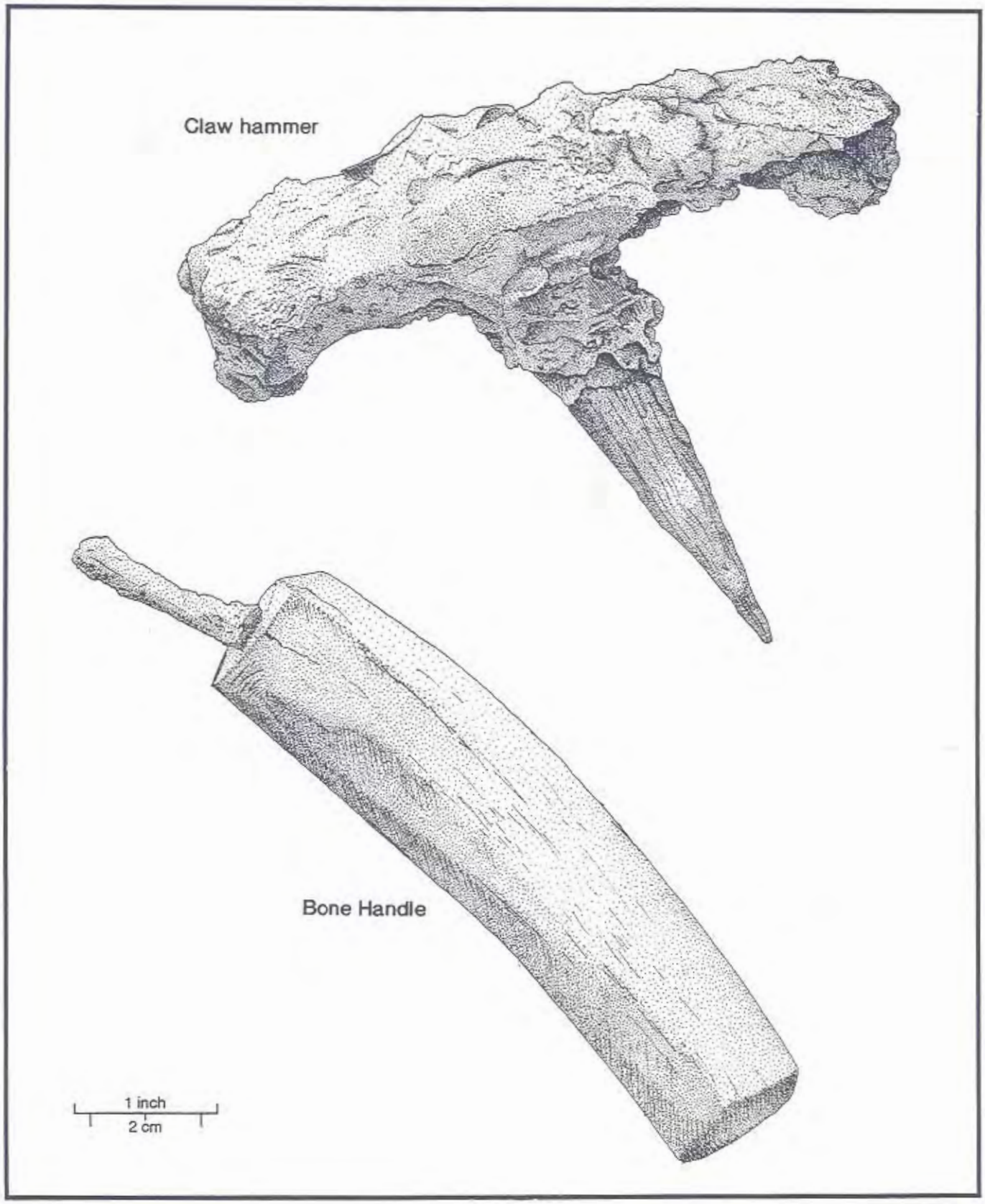
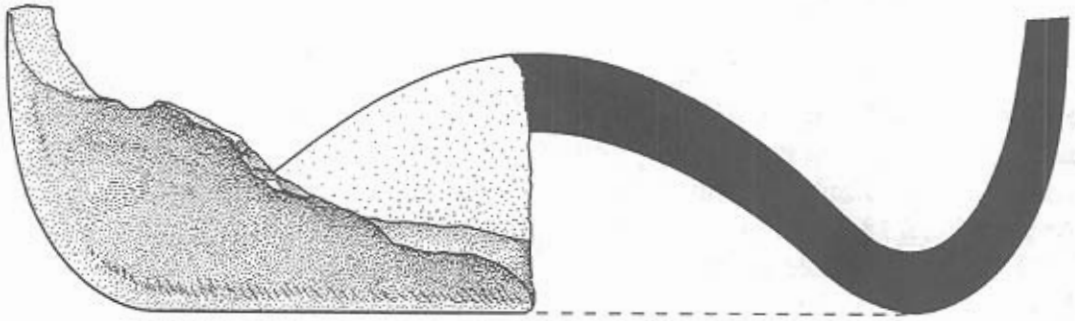
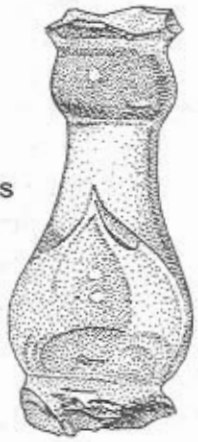


FIGURE 64

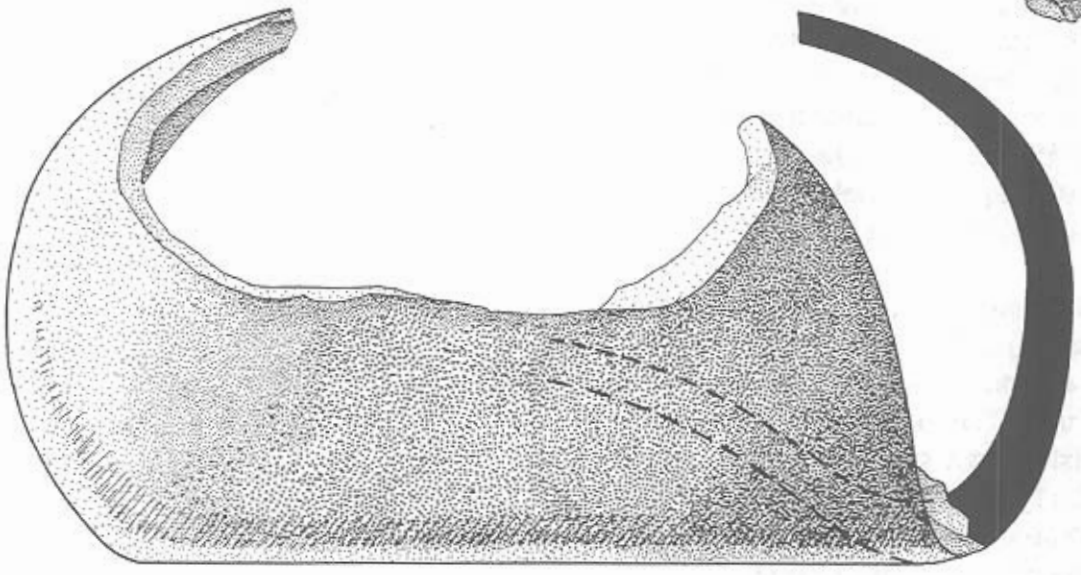
Glass Artifacts from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation



Vessel 9 – Olive wine bottle base



Lead wine glass baluster



Vessel 10 – Olive wine bottle base

1 inch
2 cm

species level. Cows and pigs were the most common species represented. The remains of deer and horse cranium, however, were also identified. No fish, bird, turtle or other species were found in the well. Minimum number of individual analyses were not undertaken at the feature level.

A total of 236 identifiable charred floral remains were recovered from soil samples taken from every excavation level of the well shaft. No floral artifacts were found in soil samples from the builder's trench. An additional 18 unidentifiable charred seeds and 9,837 unidentifiable charred spores were found. Thirty-nine species of plants were represented in the 236 identifiable remains from the well shaft (Table 14). By far the most common floral remains were 143 black walnut shell fragments found in nearly every level of the well shaft. Black walnuts accounted for 61 percent of all identifiable floral artifacts. The second most common species was Bermuda grass; fifteen seeds were found throughout the well. All of the remaining 29 species were represented by less than seven seeds or other diagnostic remains. Four small domestic corn cob fragments were also found in Feature H39 (Figure 65). All of the fragments were charred and less than one inch long. No kernels, tassels, or other diagnostic portions were recovered. The fragments were found in the middle of the well shaft at approximately 7.0 to 8.0 feet below subsoil (Level 9, Figure 59).

In conclusion, the artifacts deposited in the well shaft came primarily from the first occupation of the Powell Plantation by John Powell and his widow, Ann Pugh. The fill was dated by the two marked English brown stoneware mugs made between 1702-1714 and by pipe stem bore hole size analysis. Nine ceramic crossmends linked the well-shaft to the two domestic structures (Feature H10 and H11), a trash pit (Feature H27) and the cellar hole of Outbuilding II (Feature H18). Some domestic and structural debris from the second occupation of the site, however, may have been added to the very top of the shaft when the site was abandoned ca. 1735.

## TABLE 13
## Summary of Faunal Remains from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

| | | Butchering Marks | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| COW | NISP | Knife | Chop | Cut |
| Cranium and mandible | 44 | | 2 | |
| Teeth | 35 | | | |
| Vertebrae | 25 | | | |
| Ribs | 31 | | 2 | 14 |
| Scapula | 14 | 4 | 2 | |
| Ulna, humerus, and radius | 22 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| Femur and tibia | 16 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Metacarpals and metatarsals | 83 | | 7 | |
| TOTAL | 270 | 6 | 22 | 18 |
| PIG | | | | |
| Cranium and mandible | 32 | | 2 | |
| Scapula | 20 | | | |
| Ulna, humerus, and radius | 9 | | 1 | |
| Femur and tibia | 18 | | | |
| Metacarpals and metatarsals | 13 | | | |
| TOTAL | 92 | | 3 | |
| DEER | | | | |
| Cranium | 32 | | | |
| HORSE | | | | |
| Cranium | 227 | | | |
| Teeth | 12 | | | |
| TOTAL | 239 | | | |
| UNIDENTIFIED MAMMAL | 2406 | | 1 | |

NISP = # of identifiable specimens

## FIGURE 65
## Corn Cobs from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

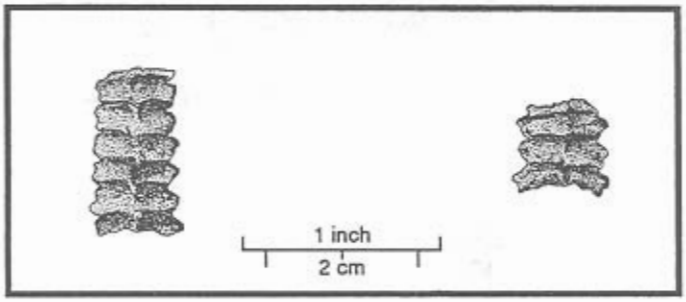


TABLE 14

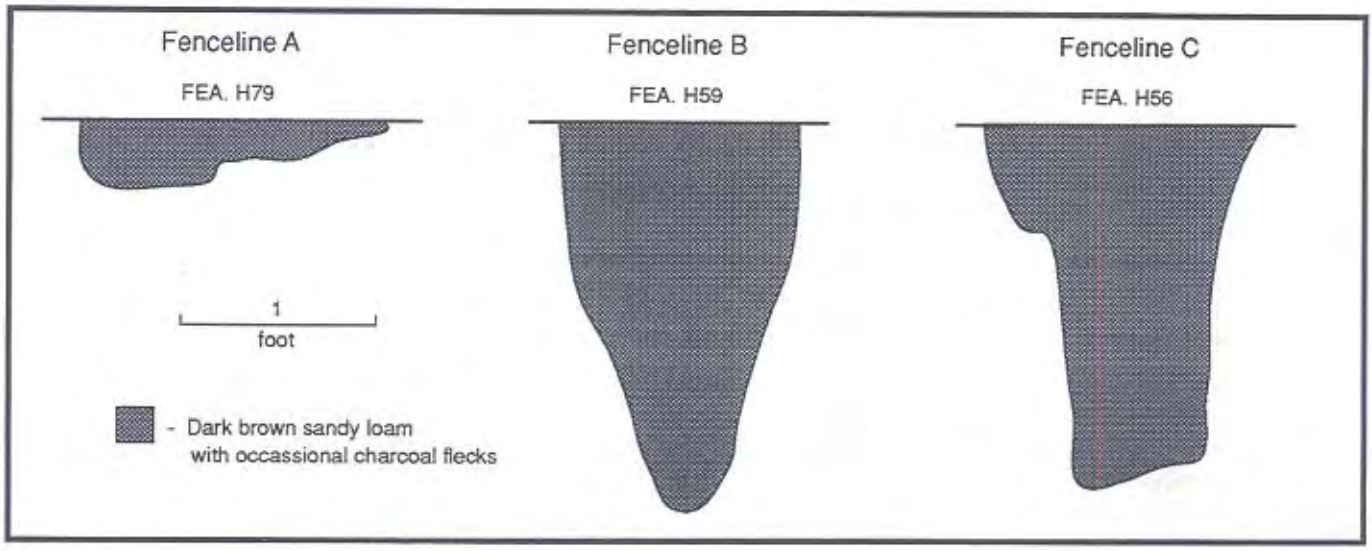
# Summary of Floral Remains from Feature H39 (Well), John Powell Plantation

| SPECIES | ENVIROMENT | 2<br>1'-2' | 3<br>2'-3' | 4<br>4'-5' | 5<br>6'-7' | 6-8<br>4'-7' | 9-11<br>7'-10' | 12-14<br>10'-13' | 15<br>13'-16' | 16<br>16'-19' | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Copperleaf (*Acalypha gracilens*) | Wetland | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | 2 |
| Pigweed (*Amaranthus sp.*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| Ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiaefolia*) | Farmland | – | – | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 4 |
| Peppervine (*Ampelopsis arborea*) | Woodland | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 2 |
| Winter Cress (*Barbarea vulgaris*) | Wetland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Hickory (*Caryd sp.*) | Woodland | – | – | – | – | 3 | – | – | – | – | 3 |
| Lamb's-quarters (*Chenopodium sp.*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Bermuda Grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) | Farmland | – | 4 | 8 | – | – | 3 | – | – | – | 15 |
| Flatsedge (*Cyperus strigosus*) | Wetland | – | – | 3 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 3 |
| Jimsonweed (*Datura stramonium*) | Farmland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Tansymustard (*Descuraina pinnata*) | Farmland | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Crabgrass (*Digitaria sangvinalis*) | Farmland | – | – | 2 | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 3 |
| Goosegrass (*Eleusine indica*) | Wetland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Spikerush (*Eleocharis sp.*) | Farmland | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| Spurge (*Euphobia maculata*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Bedstraw (*Gallium sp.*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Geranium (*Geranium sp.*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | 1 |
| Mannagrass (*Glyceria grandis*) | Wetland | – | – | 2 | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 3 |
| False Pennyroyal (*Hedoma pulegioides*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Black Walnut (*Jugla nigra*) | Woodland | 13 | 8 | – | 12 | 28 | 52 | 5 | 4 | 21 | 143 |
| Rush (*Juncus acumiatus*) | Wetland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Creosote (*Larrea tridenta*) | Farmland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Bullgrass (*Paspalum boscianum*) | Wetland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Pellitory (*Parietaria pensylvanica*) | Farmland | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | 2 |
| Pokeberry (*Phytolaca americana*) | Farmland | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Bluegrass (*Poa annus*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | 2 |
| Smartweed (*Polygonium sp.*) | Wetland | – | – | 6 | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | 7 |
| Raspberry (*Rubus acaulis*) | Woodland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Sheep Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) | Farmland | – | 2 | 1 | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | 5 |
| Widgeon Grass (*Ruppia maritima*) | Wetland | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*) | Farmland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Sea Purslane (*Sesuvium sessile*) | Wetland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Bristlegrass (*Setaria viridis*) | Farmland | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 |
| Prickly Mallow (*Sida spinosa*) | Farmland | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Checkermallow (*Sidala neomexicana*) | Farmland | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Spurry (*Spergula arvensis*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Blueberry (*Vaccinium vaccilans*) | Woodland | – | – | 3 | 1 | 2 | – | – | – | – | 6 |
| Violet (*Viola lanceolata*) | Farmland | – | 1 | 1 | – | 3 | – | – | – | – | 5 |
| Corn (*Zea mays*) | Farmland | – | – | – | – | – | 4 | – | – | – | 4 |
| TOTAL | | 14 | 20 | 38 | 16 | 40 | 73 | 7 | 5 | 23 | 236 |
| Unidentified Seeds | | – | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | – | 1 | – | – | 18 |
| Unidentified Spores | | 877 | 1499 | – | 450 | 1211 | 4713 | 215 | 612 | 260 | 9837 |
| Charcoal | | 1.2g | 0g | 29.6g | 12.2g | 1g | 0g | 4.5g | .2g | 0g | 48.7g |
| | | | | | | | | | | TOTAL | 254 |

Note: All seeds are charred unless otherwise noted. All measurements are below subsoil.

FIGURE 66

# Typical Post Hole Profiles from Fencelines A-C, John Powell Plantation




**Fencelines**

The remains of three fencelines were identified at the Powell Plantation (Appendix IV). The three fencelines, Fencelines A-C, bounded the area between the house and the four outbuildings to the north, Outbuildings I, II, III, and V (Attachment IV). Fenceline A was the remains of a worm or Virginia rail fence between two of the three early outbuildings, Outbuildings II and III. Fenceline A was marked by the remains of six square post holes: Features H18A, H78-H81, and H16. The post holes are the remains of vertical wooden stakes set at the intersection of the rail panels to provide additional support. Similar staked and ridered worm fences were found at the William Strickland Plantation, a nearby farm occupied from ca. 1726-1765 (Catts et al. 1994). Evidence of only one post mold was found in Feature H16.

Fenceline A was probably erected during the second period of outbuilding construction at the site (Attachment II). The easternmost post hole, Feature H18A, intruded into the corner of the cellar hole (Feature 18) of Outbuilding II, one of the early outbuildings. The stratigraphic sequence between the cellar hole and post hole, however, was blurred by rodent activity. The square, shovel-cut post holes of Fenceline A were typically 1.2- x 1.0-foot square. The features extended from 0.25 to 1.9 feet below ground surface and were filled with the same dark brown sandy loam soil found in the other deep features at the site (Figure 66). One post hole, Feature H18A, extended to 3.75 feet below subsoil. Artifacts were found in only one feature of Fenceline A. Feature H78 contained two small wrought iron nail fragments.

Fenceline B was the remains of a post and rail fence 50 feet west of the Powell house (Attachment II). Fenceline B was oriented to the house and marked the western and southern limit of the Powell yard. Fenceline B consisted of five features: H58, H59, H64, H90, and H104. A post mold was found

PLATE 28

## Post Hole of Fenceline B (Feature H90), John Powell Plantation

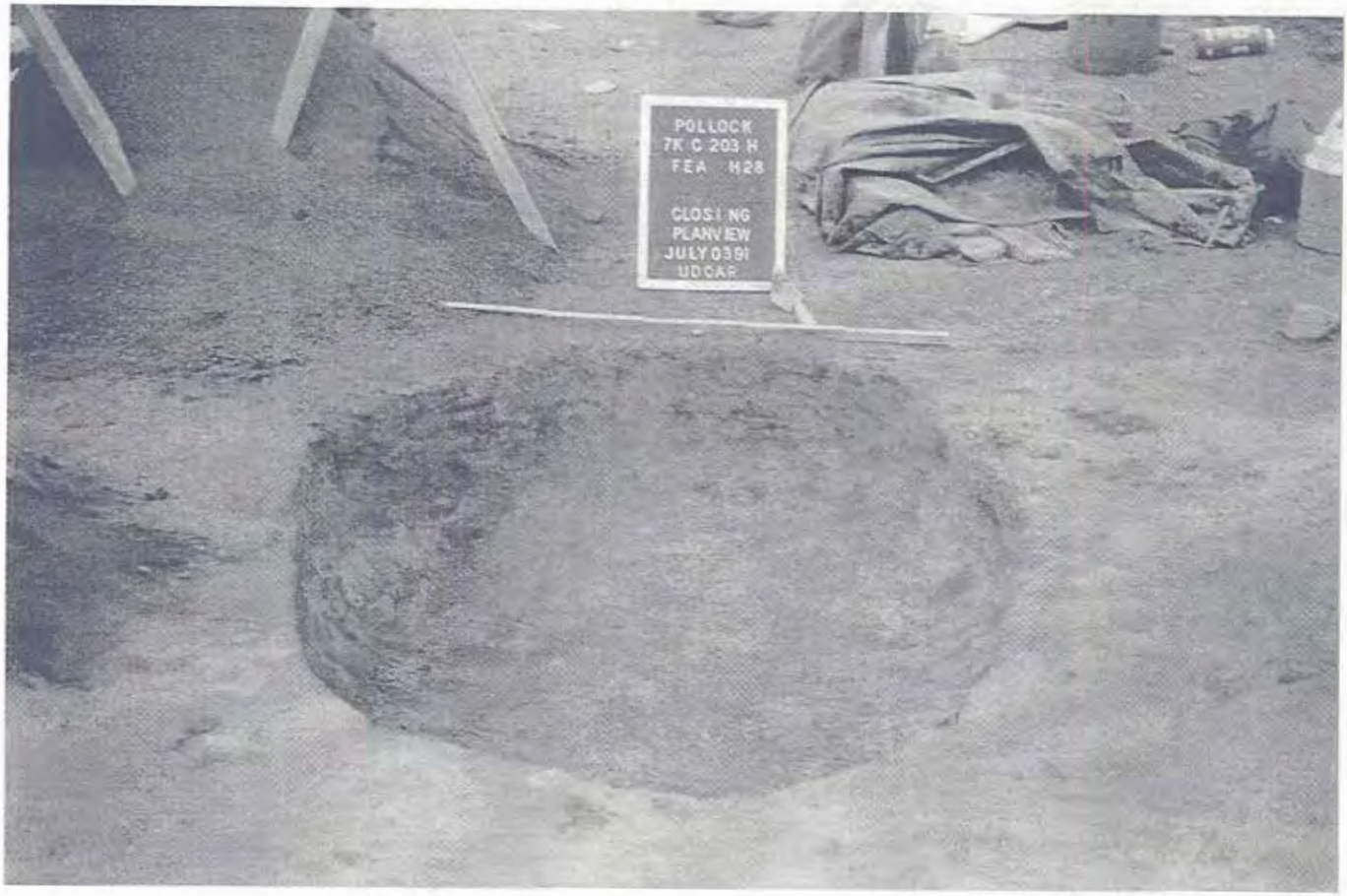

in only one feature, Feature H59 (Figure 66). All five features were simple post holes measured approximately 1.1- to 1.4-foot square and less than 1.8 feet deep (Plate 28). Only Feature 59 contained any historical artifacts, 39 small iron nail fragments.

Fenceline C was located sixty feet west of the Powell house between the tobacco house (Outbuilding V) to the north and Fenceline B to the south (Attachment II). Fenceline C was oriented parallel to the tobacco house, but not to Fenceline B. Thus Fenceline C and B were probably not contemporary. Six square post holes comprised Fenceline C: Features H51, H53, H54, H56, H97, and H98. One feature, Feature H51, contained a post mold. The features were similar in shape and profile to the post holes of Fencelines A and B (Figure 66). No artifacts were found in any of the features of Fenceline C.

Two possible fencelines were identified along the northern and western edges of the site. The northern possible fenceline was marked by four small square post holes six feet north of Outbuilding II and parallel to Fenceline A (Attachment II). The fenceline would have paralleled Fenceline A. All four features, Features H71, H72, H75 and H76, however, were poorly preserved and contained no artifacts. No other evidence of a fenceline was identified. The other possible fenceline consisted of three small

PLATE 29

## Closing Plan View of Feature H28 (Daub/Trash Pit), John Powell Plantation



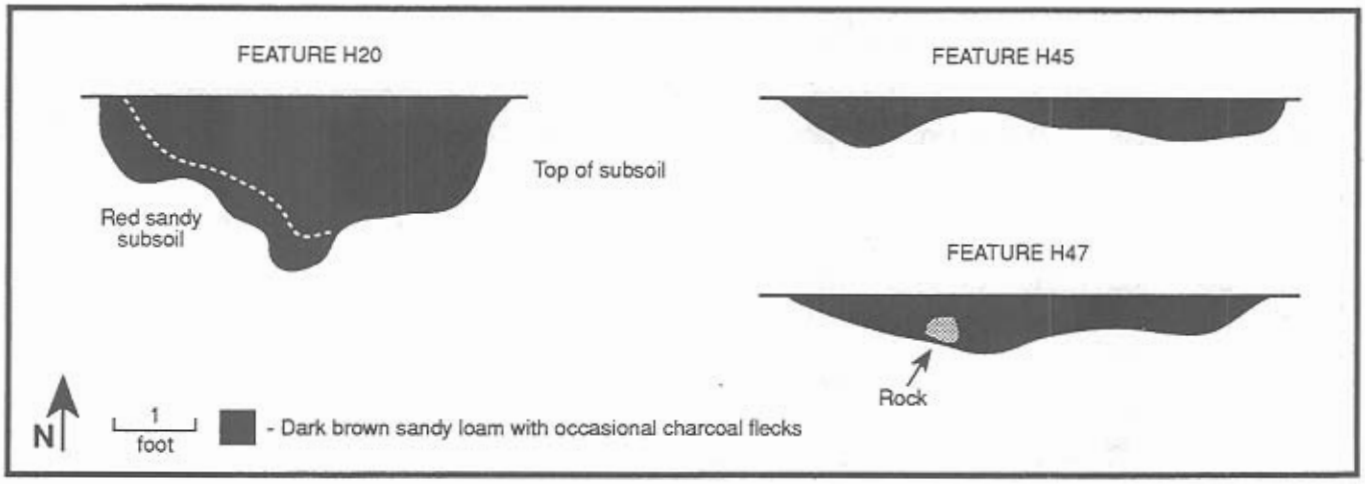

square post holes 20 feet south of Fenceline C (Attachment II). All three features, Features H94-H96, were square post holes eight feet apart. The features were severely eroded and contained no artifacts. No other evidence of a fenceline was identified.

**Daub/Trash Pits**

Eight small daub/trash pits were identified and excavated at the Powell Site. All of these features, Features 17, 20, 21, 28, 29, 45, 47, and 62, were located within 60 feet of the Powell houses (Attachment II). Indeed, all of these features were located in an intensively used yard area between the Powell house (Features H10 and H11) and four outbuildings, Outbuildings I, II, III, and V (Attachment II). All of the daub/trash pits were round or oval stains between 3 and 11 feet in diameter and 0.5 to 1.7 feet deep (Plate 29). The largest trash pits were clustered near the west, or chimney, ends of the two Powell houses. Profiles of the three largest daub/trash pits, Features H20, H45, and H47 are shown in Figure 67.

FIGURE 67

## Profiles of Typical Daub/Trash Pits, John Powell Plantation




The location of all seven features and their straight sides and regular bottoms identified them as daub pits dug to mine mud, clay, and other construction materials. The regular sides and bottom of Feature H28 were typical of the daub/trash pits (Plate 29). The pits were then filled with household garbage, yard debris, and demolition debris. The dark brown sandy loam fill of all the daub/trash pits was highly organic and flecked with small charcoal stains. None of the daub/trash pits were stratified. All of the features, except Features H21 and H29, contained late seventeenth and early eighteenth century artifacts (Appendix IV). No artifacts were found in Features H21 and H29. The highly organic fill of all seven trash pits also attracted numerous rodents.

Except for Feature H47, relatively few artifacts were found in each daub/trash pit (Table 15). Architectural artifacts were found in all of the features except H21 and H29. The presence of both domestic and architectural artifacts in the daub/trash pits indicates that each feature received demolition debris from one, and probably both, domestic structures and related outbuildings. Architectural artifacts were most common in the features closest to the houses. A total of 1,831 artifacts (excluding floral remains) were found in Features H17, H20, H28, H29, H45, H47, and H62 (Table 15). Sixty-nine percent of these artifacts were small brick and wrought nail fragments. Preservation was generally poor in all of the features. Historical ceramics, however, were only recovered in two features, H17 and H47.

Feature H47 was the only trash pit that could be associated with the second, tenant occupation of the Powell Plantation. Feature H47 contained consistently the youngest pipe fragments of all the trash deposits. The mean date of the 39 measurable pipe stems in Feature H47 was 1734.6. An additional 45 white clay pipe stem and bowl fragments, 104 historical ceramic sherds, and two iron table knife fragments were found in Feature H47. The two most common wares were 82 undecorated and slip-decorated redwares (79%) and 19 Staffordshire (18%).

Small, poorly preserved redware body fragments constituted 70 percent of the ceramic assemblage from Feature H47. Nineteen small Staffordshire and ten Rhenish blue-and-gray stoneware sherds constituted 18 percent and 10 percent respectively of the assemblage. One small tin-glazed earthenware and two brown English stoneware sherds were also found in Feature H47. One sherd each of redware, Staffordshire, and German salt-glazed stoneware vessels were found in Feature H17.

# TABLE 15
# Summary of All Daub/Trash Pit Features, John Powell Plantation

| Fea. | Location | | Dimension | Depth | Domestic Artifacts | | | | | Architectural Artifacts | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Ceramics | Faunal | Pipes | Glass | Other | Brick (ct.) | Nails | Other | Arms | Total |
| H17 | S20 | W66 | 13.5' x 11.0' | 1.3' | 3 | 2 | 1 | – | – | 641 | 15 | 6 | – | 668 |
| H20 | S2 | W100 | 10.5' x 8.0' | 1.7' | – | 1 | – | – | – | 236 | 1 | – | – | 238 |
| H21 | N7 | W107 | 6.3' x 6.0' | 1.3' | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| H28 | S28 | W84 | 5.0' x 4.0' | 1.4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 5 | – | – | 5 |
| H29 | S30.6 | W71.4 | 8.0' x 2.6' | 1.5' | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| H45 | S40 | W88 | 7.9' x 4.2' | 0.5' | – | 15 | 6 | – | – | 44 | 50 | 9 | – | 124 |
| H47 | S40 | W100 | 6.0' x 5.7' | 0.6' | 104 | 321 | 86 | 1 | 2 | 254 | 13 | – | 12 | 793 |
| H62 | S34 | W80 | 4.4' x 2.4' | 0.5' | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | 3 |
| Total | | | | | 107 | 339 | 94 | 1 | 2 | 1145 | 86 | 15 | 12 | 1831 |

Seven minimum vessels were identified from Features H17 and H47 (Appendix III). The single identifiable minimum vessel from Feature H17 was a German blue-and-gray salt-glazed stoneware mug (Vessel 56, Appendix III). The mug was decorated with sprig molded cobalt blue panels, but no monarchical ciphers. Also known as Rhenish or Westerwald wares, German blue-and-gray stonewares were produced from the early sixteenth century to ca. 1725 when debased forms became popular (Noel Hume 1970). The four redware and one refined minimum vessels found in Feature H47 were equally undatable. The redwares consisted of a white slip-decorated crock (Vessel 22), porringer (Vessel 9), pitcher (Vessel 24), and another crock (Vessel 25). The porringer, plate, and second crock were undecorated, but finished with a clear lead glaze on both the interior and exterior surfaces. The only refined vessel identified in Feature H47 was an English brown salt-glazed stoneware jug. The jug was undecorated, but finished with a dark brown slip under the salt-glaze.

Unfortunately, none of the minimum vessels could be dated precisely. All of the wares were in common use during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Moreover, all of the vessels were less than five percent extant. The small size of the sherds indicates that they were deposited into the trash pits as secondary deposits of yard debris. Sherds to the five minimum vessels from Feature H47 were also found in Feature H11 (Appendix III). Additional ceramic crossmends were found between Feature H47 and the other deep features at the site including the first Powell dwelling (Feature H10) and the well (Feature H39).

Faunal remains were found in four trash pits, Features H17, H20, H45, and H47 (Table 15). Feature H17 contained three unidentified mammal bone fragments and Feature H20 contained a single unidentified mammal bone. Fifteen faunal remains consisting of 14 unidentifiable mammal remains and one pig phalanx were found in Feature H45. None of these small daub/trash pits contained any oyster or clam shell fragments.

Feature H47 contained the largest number of faunal remains recovered from any of the daub/trash pits at the Powell Plantation. A total of 321 faunal remains, including 269 bone and 52 small oyster and clam shell fragments, were recovered. All of the shell fragments were small and could not be analyzed further. Unfortunately, 80 percent of the bone fragments were equally poorly preserved and unidentifiable. Approximately 47 of the 51 identifiable faunal remains came from an unknown number of cows. Diagnostic cow remains included twelve skull and mandible fragments; 18 femur, humerus, and phalange fragments; and nine metatarsal and metacarpal fragments. The remaining four diagnostic faunal remains were pig humerus fragments. The large proportion of skull and leg bones in Feature H47 indicates that pigs and cows were butchered on site. Except for the oyster and clam shells, no wild faunal remains were found in Feature H47 or any of the other daub/trash pits. Approximately twenty percent of the 269 bone artifacts from Feature H47 had been burnt. No other food preparation or butchering marks were found on any of the faunal remains from Feature H47 or any of the other daub/trash pits.

Identifiable floral remains were found in four daub/trash pits: Features H20, H28, H29, and H45. Features H17, H47, and H62 did not contain any floral artifacts. Feature 28 contained the most floral material. Feature H28 contained evidence of a variety of wetland and hydorphytic species including flatsedge (Cyperus), sumpweed (Iva), and water arum (Colla). Bayberry (Myrica), alder (Alnus) and possibly lotus (Nelumbo) were also found in Feature H28. Feature H47 contained arrowwood (Viburnum) and spurge (Euphobia) seeds. Feature H20 contained one solomonseal (Polygonatum) seed and Feature H29 contained evidence of Panicum, a common farmland grass. Except for the solomonseal, none of species from the daub/trash pits are edible.

**Additional Features**

Two other trash deposits were identified at the John Powell Plantation. The most intensively used trash deposit was a large sheet midden located in the yard area between the two Powell houses and Outbuildings I, II, III, and V (Attachment II). This workyard measured approximately 30 x 40 feet and included the area of the five largest daub/trash pits, Features H45, H47, H28, H62, and H17. High artifact densities in the plow zone not associated with the daub/trash pits indicated intensive yard scatter. However, no dark stain from the midden such as Feature C648 found at the Whitehart Plantation was found. Any evidence of the sheet midden that may have extended into the subsoil was obscured by the subsequent plowing of the daub/trash pits.

The second area of trash disposal was in a deep erosion gully along the west edge of the site. The gully, Feature H106, appeared as a dark, slightly to moderately organic stain 110 feet west of the Powell houses. Feature H106 was 73 feet long and 11 feet wide. Six 5- x 5-foot test units were excavated through the heavily eroded sand and gravel fill of Feature 106. Occasional seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century artifacts were found in highly disturbed contexts. This gully apparently received occasional domestic debris during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and then again in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Severe erosion and agricultural plowing, however, disturbed the entire feature.

Several post holes not associated with any known cultural features at the site were excavated. Three such post holes, Features H48, H49, and H65, were located 10 feet south of Outbuilding I and V (Attachment II). The post holes were not aligned to either building. No artifacts were found in any of

the features. Thirty-five of the 117 total features identified at the site proved to be non-cultural. These non-cultural features were primarily rodent holes, plow scars, and tree stains. Except for the rodent holes, all of these features were distributed randomly over the site. The 13 rodent holes, including five associated with the Powell houses (Features H110, H111, and H114-H116), tended to be located near known trash deposits and areas of concentrated organic matter. One other cluster of rodent holes, Features H43, H93, H101, and H102, were found halfway between the Powell houses and Fenceline B.

Three possible prehistoric features were identified and excavated at the site. No diagnostic artifacts were found in any of the features, Features H12, H13, and H57. Indeed, only one quartzite flake was found in all three features. The flake was found in Feature H12 which was also disturbed by a historical post hole. Moreover, all three possible prehistoric features were severely eroded and contained less than 1.5 feet of medium brown coarse sand and gravel fill. The fill of all three features was moderately organic and contained small charcoal flecks.

### General Artifact Assemblages

A total of 16,555 artifacts were recovered from plow zone and feature contexts at the John Powell Plantation (Table 2). Almost three quarters of all artifacts (12,131 or 73%) came from feature contexts. An additional 5.8 kilograms of small brick and mortar fragments were recovered from the site. Other artifacts included local and imported ceramics, bottle glass, table glass, tobacco pipes, gunflints, nails, buttons, tools, horse gear, bone, seeds, and nuts. The majority of the artifacts recovered from feature excavations came from six deep features: Features H10, H11, H39, H45, and H47. The most common feature artifacts were bone (7,155 or 59%); wrought, cut, and unidentified nails (1,361 or 11%); clay pipe fragments (860 or 7%); ceramics (681 or 6%); oyster and clam shell (455 or 4%); and glass (157 or 1%). Other feature artifacts included 53 gunflints, 19 beads, 8 buttons, 6 tools, and 10 metal tablewares.

### Ceramic and Glass Assemblage Analysis

A total of 682 late seventeenth and early eighteenth century historical ceramic sherds were recovered from intact subsoil and feature deposits at the site. An additional 771 ceramics sherds were recovered from plow zone testing. Less than half (47%) of the ceramic assemblage came from features and detailed minimum vessel and other ceramic analyses primarily focused on the artifacts from undisturbed contexts.

A total of 56 minimum ceramic vessels were identified at the Powell Plantation (Appendix III). Two of these vessels (Vessels 15 and 16), however, were intrusive nineteenth century whitewares found in the plow zone. Thus, 54 seventeenth and early eighteenth century minimum vessels were identified (Table 16). Almost all vessels were less than 10 percent extant. Six different ware types were identified. Redware, including slip-decorated wares, were the most common and constituted 44 percent of the assemblage. All of the redwares were glazed on at least one side with a clear lead glaze with varying amounts of small iron flecks. The second most common ware was Staffordshire earthenware; nine vessels (17%) were identified. Seven English tin-glazed and seven German blue-and-gray salt-glazed stoneware vessels (13% each) were also found. English brown salt-glazed stoneware vessels were only

TABLE 16

# Summary of Minimum Ceramic Vessels, John Powell Plantation

| WARE | TEAWARE | TABLEWARE | | | | | | KITCHEN/STORAGE WARE | | | | TOLIET | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cups | Plates | Porringers | Mugs | Jugs | Bowls | Pitchers | Crocks | Milk Pans | Other Pans | Bottle | Ointment | Total |
| Redware | – | – | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 7 | – | – | – | 20 |
| Slip-decorated redware | – | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | 4 |
| Staffordshire | 5 | 1 | – | 2 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 9 |
| English delft | – | 6 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 7 |
| English brown salt-glazed stoneware | – | – | – | 4 | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 6 |
| German blue and gray salt-glazed stoneware | – | – | – | 7 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 7 |
| Other | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| TOTAL | 5 | 7 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 54 |

Note: Two ninetenth century whiteware plates (vessels 15-16) from the plow zone above, Feature H11 and H39 are not included

slightly less common and six such vessels (11%) were identified. One minimum vessel, a buff paste earthenware crock, was also found. No porcelain, creamware, North Devon, Buckley, or other wares were found at the site.

Tablewares dominated the minimum vessel assemblage. Over half of the 54 total vessels (31 vessels or 57%) were table and serving wares. Mugs and plates were the most common forms. The fifteen mugs were half of all the tablewares and the single most common ceramic form. Mugs were also produced in more ceramic ware types than any other form including every ware present at the site except tin-glazed. The most common mugs were seven German blue-and-gray sprig-molded bulbous and straight-sided vessels. All of the mugs were panel molded and decorated with bright cobalt blue colors inside neatly incised and molded lines. One of the German vessels, Vessel 50, also had manganese purple decorations. One other vessel, Vessel 51, had a hole in the handle for mounting a pewter lid. Four, straight-sided English brown salt-glazed stoneware mugs, two Staffordshire mottled brown mugs,

and two redware mugs were also found. One of the Staffordshire mugs (Vessel 27) was bulbous in shape. One of the redware mugs (Vessel 49) was slip-decorated with a thin brown band around the exterior rim.

Plates were the second most common tableware. Seven small plates or twifflers were identified (Table 16). Six of the plates were English tin-glazed decorated with various blue hand-painted floral patterns. No evidence of a common pattern was identified. All of the plates, however, were poorly preserved and less than ten percent extant. One other plate, Vessel 33, was a Staffordshire type slipware decorated with a brown and tan slip-trail on a thin white slip. The vessel also had a coggled edge and tan drops.

Jugs, bowls, porringers, and a pitcher were the four other tablewares identified. Four jugs, three bowls, and one porringer in a variety of wares were found. Two jugs, two bowls, and the porringer were made of lead glazed redware. Only one vessel, a bowl, was slip-decorated. The largest of the two undecorated redware jugs, Vessel 1, held approximately one gallon, but was not glazed on the interior (Figure 60). The undecorated redware bowl (Vessel 11), porringer (Vessel 9), and pitcher (Vessel 24), were glazed with a clear to amber lead glaze. A similar porringer was found in a late seventeenth century well at Webb's Landing near Dover (Fithian 1993: personal communication). The place of manufacture of all of the redware vessels is unknown. Two refined jugs and one bowl were also found at the site. Both jugs, Vessels 47 and 48, were made of English brown salt-glazed stoneware. At least one of the vessels, Vessel 48, was a Bellarmine (Figure 60). The bowl was a small Staffordshire bowl, Vessel 26. The Staffordshire bowl was made of a very soft, chalky paste and decorated with brown and green streaks typical of northern England.

The second most common ceramics at the Powell Plantation were kitchen and storage vessels (Table 16). Seventeen of the 54 total vessels (31%) were crocks, milk pans, and other kitchen/storage wares. All of the kitchen/storage vessels, except for a crock of unknown ware and two slip-decorated wares, were undecorated redwares of unknown manufacture. Seven crocks and seven milk pans were identified. The seven crocks were Vessels 8, 10, 12, 14, 18, 21, and 25. All of the vessels had heavy wear on the interior and were glazed, at least on the interior, with a clear to amber lead glaze. The paste of the vessels varied from a very fine-grained paste tempered with mica and small pebbles (Vessel 14) to a coarse paste tempered with crushed quartz (Vessel 18). The variation in pastes and tempers suggests different places of manufacture. All of the crocks were less than 10 percent extant.

The seven milk pans, Vessels 2-7 and 13, showed similar variation in paste and temper. The paste and temper of the vessels varied from a fine paste with fine gravel temper (Vessel 7) to coarse buff paste with black gravel temper (Vessel 13). One of the milk pans may have been slip-decorated (Vessel 4). All of the vessels, however, had the pulled lip and interior-only lead glaze typical of milk pans. The interior lead glaze varied from a thin, clear lead glaze (Vessel 5) to a thick, yellow tinted glaze (Vessel 3). The clear lead glazed vessels often had black flecks from small iron inclusions. The two slip-decorated kitchen/storage vessels were a small pan (Vessel 39) and a bottle (Vessel 17). The pan had a thin, turned out rim. The bottle was made of a fine redware paste and decorated with a variegated white slip, possibly North Italian red marbleized ware. Noel Hume (1970) dates North Italian ware to 1610-1660.

Five teawares were identified (Table 16). All five vessels were combed Staffordshire cups. No other wares or forms, including saucers, were found. All of the cups, Vessels 28-32, were similarly shaped and decorated with similar brown combed lines over white slip and glazed with a thick yellow-tinted lead glaze. Vessel 32 had an additional thin band of brown slip around the rim.

TABLE 17

# Summary of Glass Vessels, John Powell Plantation

| Vessel | Context | Function | Form |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | H39 | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |
| 2 | H39 | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |
| 3 | H39 | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |
| 4 | H39 | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |
| 5 | H39 | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |
| 6 | H39 | liquor | dip-molded square case bottle |
| 7 | H39 | liquor | free-blown wine bottle |
| 8 | H39 | household | free-blown conical ink bottle |
| 9 | H39 | liquor | free-blown wine bottle |
| 10 | H39 | liquor | free-blown wine bottle |
| 11 | H39 | liquor | free-blown wine bottle |
| 12 | H39 | household | dip-molded square snuff bottle |
| 13 | plow zone | liquor | American dip-molded green flask |
| 14 | plow zone | liquor | American aqua-mold blown bottle |
| 15 | plow zone | tableware | free-blown stemmed wine glass |

Only one toilet ware was found at the Powell Plantation (Table 16). The vessel was a small English tin-glazed ointment pot. The base of the pot, Vessel 41, was found in the well and appears in Figure 60. No other sherds were found. No chamber pots were found.

Use wear was most apparent on the 17 kitchen wares. As could be expected, the crocks and milk pans, showed the greatest ware. Even one jug, Vessel 10, had significant interior wear, probably from mixing. Wear was also visible on all five Staffordshire tea cups. The exteriors were most worn, but some wear on the interior was evident. Apparently all of the ceramic vessels at the site were intensively used and probably served multiple purposes. Only one vessel, a crock, had been heavily burnt.

Fifteen minimum glass vessel were identified from plow zone and feature contexts at the site. The vessels are summarized in Table 17 and described in more detail in Appendix II. Twelve vessels came from features and three from the plow zone. All of the vessels were poorly preserved and represented by only a few sherds. Eleven of the 12 glass containers (92%) from features came from the well (Feature H39) and were discussed in that context. The only other minimum glass vessel from a feature was a free-blown clear lead wine glass from Feature H11. Only one of the three plow zone vessels, Vessel 15, could be attributed to the eighteenth century occupation of the site. Vessel 15 was another free-blown lead wine glass. The other two plow zone vessels, Vessels 13 and 14, were intrusive late eighteenth and early nineteenth century bottles.

Tablewares and liquor bottles were almost equally represented. Six of the 13 early vessels (46%) were tablewares and five (38%) were liquor bottles. The last two vessels were household items: an olive, dip-molded snuff bottle (Vessel 12) and conical ink pot (Vessel 8). All of the tablewares were clear, hand-blown stemmed wine glasses (Vessels 1-5 and 15, Figure 64). Only one of the wine glasses, Vessel 4, was not made of lead glass. Four of the five liquor bottles were free-blown olive wine bottles (Vessels 7 and 9-11). Three of the wine bottles could be identified as "onion-shaped" bottles, a distinctive, but common early eighteenth century form (Figure 64). No wine bottle seals were found. The fifth liquor bottle (Vessel 6) was a square case bottle. All five liquor bottles were found in the well.

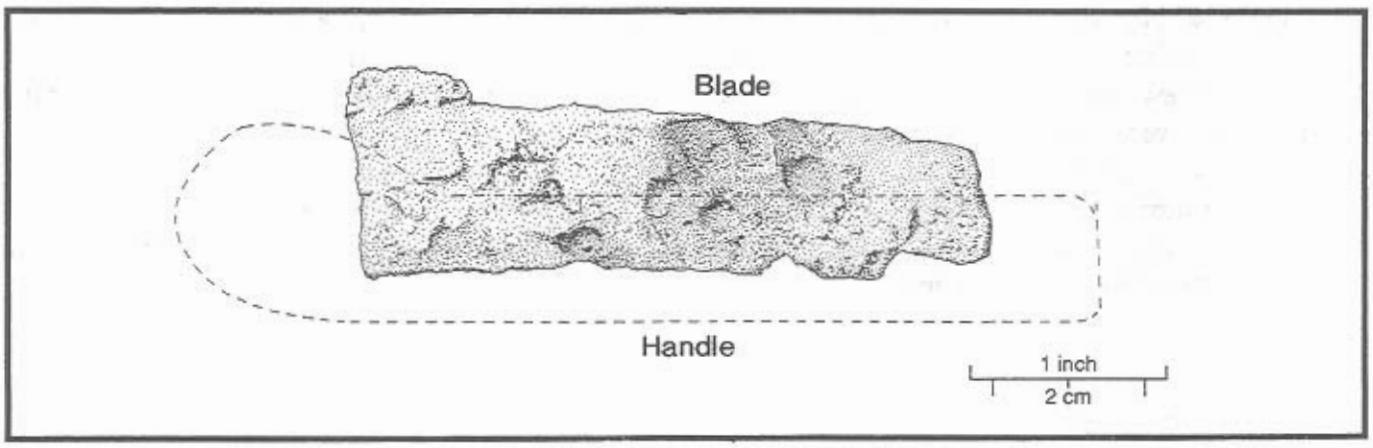
The 11 minimum glass vessels from the well, Feature H39, can be attributed to the first occupation of the site by the Powell family. The later tenants at the site appear to have used little glass. The Powells, however, could have laid out an impressive setting: stemmed wine glasses, imported snuff, and two kinds of liquor. The ink bottle suggests literacy. No lighting artifacts or other types of glass vessels were found.

**Kitchen Utensils and Domestic Artifact Analysis**

Fragments of 10 kitchen utensils and 23 other diagnostic domestic artifacts were recovered from plow zone and feature contexts. Other domestic artifacts included buttons, pins, curtain rings, thimbles, and furniture hardware. The 10 kitchen utensils consisted of fragments of four knives, an iron chopper, a fork, a bone fork or knife handle, a flesh fork or fire place spoon, and a copper alloy kettle rim lug. All of these artifacts came from the well, the two house, and one trash pit (Feature H47). The chopper, flesh fork handle, bone handle, and two tanged table knife fragments are shown in Figures 56 and 61. The iron blade of the chopper was 8 1/2 inches long and heavily worn. The tip of one table knife blade was rounded and swept back from the handle. Hume (1978:177) notes that this style of knife was common throughout the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The blade of one other knife, a clasp knife, was found in the Feature H11 (Figure 68). All of the knives and other kitchen utensils were heavily worn. Only the copper alloy kettle rim lug showed evidence of repair. The lug had a crudely punched repair hole above the original rivet hole.

FIGURE 68

Clasp Knife Blade from Feature H11 (House), John Powell Plantation



Clothing artifacts consisted of pins, buttons, shoe buckles, and a thimble. None of the artifacts could be dated precisely. Buttons included three black glass buttons, four copper buttons, and two pewter buttons. The glass buttons were 1/2 inch in diameter. The four copper buttons were between 11/16ths and 15/16ths of an inch in diameter. One of the copper buttons was a two-piece domed button with an iron shank. Another two piece copper button with a copper shank is similar to South's Type 2 (Noel Hume 1970:91, Figure 23). Identical copper buttons were found at the nearby Strickland Plantation Site (Catts et al. 1994).

Four furniture-related artifacts were found at the site. The four artifacts consisted of two brass curtain rings, three brass upholstery tacks, and an iron key fragment. The key probably unlocked a large chest, a common method of storing valuable linens, clothing, and other domestic goods. The curtain rings were found in the well and the second Powell house (Feature H11). Similar rings have been found on other early eighteenth century sites in the Chesapeake, most notably King's Reach in Maryland (Pogue 1990:22).

**Floral and Faunal Assemblage Analysis**

A total of 8,927 faunal and 383 identifiable floral remains were recovered from plow zone and feature contexts at the Powell Plantation (Tables 11, 13, 14, and 18). A total of 1,772 faunal remains were recovered from plow zone contexts. Feature contexts contained 7,155 faunal artifacts. Feature artifacts include 191 dog bones from Feature H23, an intrusive nineteenth century feature. Only 51 oyster shell fragments came from features. All of these shell fragments were small and poorly preserved; therefore, no detailed oyster shell analyses were undertaken.

One third of the 5,383 feature bones (N=2339) were identifiable at the species level. Three centuries of plowing and severe erosion had destroyed a large percentage of the faunal remains at the site. The three deepest features, the well and the two house cellar holes (Features H39, H10, and H11), contained 87 percent of all the late seventeenth century and early eighteenth century bone from feature contexts. Sixty-two minimum individuals of at least 17 different domestic and wild species were identified (Table 18). Wild species included deer, raccoons, opossums, rabbit, terrapin, snapping turtle, perch and catfish. Three unidentified birds, a horse, and the intrusive nineteenth century dog were also found.

Thirty seven of the 57 food animals (65%) were domestic (Table 18). Domestic animals consisted of 22 pigs, 8 cows, and 7 sheep/goats. More than a third (36%) of all minimum animals were swine. Only two percent of the 700 identifiable pig bones had knife, chop, or other butchering marks. Another one percent of the pig bones had been charred or gnawed by carnivores. Sex, but not age, could be determined for 18 of the 22 minimum pigs. Twelve of the pigs were males (66%) and six were females (33%). Sows were probably eaten less often because of their ability to breed. The sex of the eight minimum cows is unknown, but at least five of the animals were young, less than three years old. The three other cows were older, greater than three years old. Fifteen percent of the 468 identifiable cow bones had butchering marks. Another 14 bones (3%) were charred or gnawed by rodents. The presence of roughly equal percentages of young and old cows suggests that age was not an important factor in beef production.

TABLE 18

# Summary of Faunal Remains from Features, John Powell Plantation

| | | | | MODIFICATION | | | | AGE/SEX |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | MNI | NISP | % of Total MNI | Cut | Chopped | Charred | Gnawed | |
| **Domestic Species** | | | | | | | | |
| Cow | 8 | 470 | 13% | 25 | 47 | 13 | 1 | 5 <3 yrs.; 3 >3 yrs. |
| Pig | 22 | 700 | 36% | 10 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 12 males, 6 females |
| Sheep/goat | 7 | 106 | 11% | 2 | 1 | -- | -- | |
| Total | 37 | 1276 | 60% | 37 | 54 | 167 | 5 | |
| **Wild Species** | | | | | | | | |
| Deer | 6 | 205 | 10% | -- | 4 | -- | -- | |
| Racoon | 2 | 34 | 3% | 3 | -- | -- | -- | |
| Opossum | 2 | 3 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Rabbit | 1 | 3 | 1.6% | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| Box turtle | 1 | 7 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Snapping turtle | 1 | 5 | 1.6% | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| Terrapin | 1 | 81 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Other turtle | 1 | 212 | 1.6% | -- | -- | 4 | -- | |
| Perch | 1 | 1 | 5% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Catfish | 3 | 5 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Other fish | 1 | 14 | 1.6% | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| Total | 20 | 570 | 32% | 4 | 4 | 6 | 0 | |
| **Other** | | | | | | | | |
| Dog | 1 | 191 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Horse | 1 | 241 | 1.6% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Unidentified bird | 3 | 61 | 5% | -- | -- | -- | -- | |
| Unidentified | -- | 4816 | -- | 24 | 28 | 516 | 9 | |
| Total | 5 | 5309 | 8% | 24 | 28 | 516 | 9 | |
| Total | 62 | 7155 | 100% | 65 | 86 | 538 | 14 | |

MNI : Minimum # of individuals

NISP : # of identifiable specimens

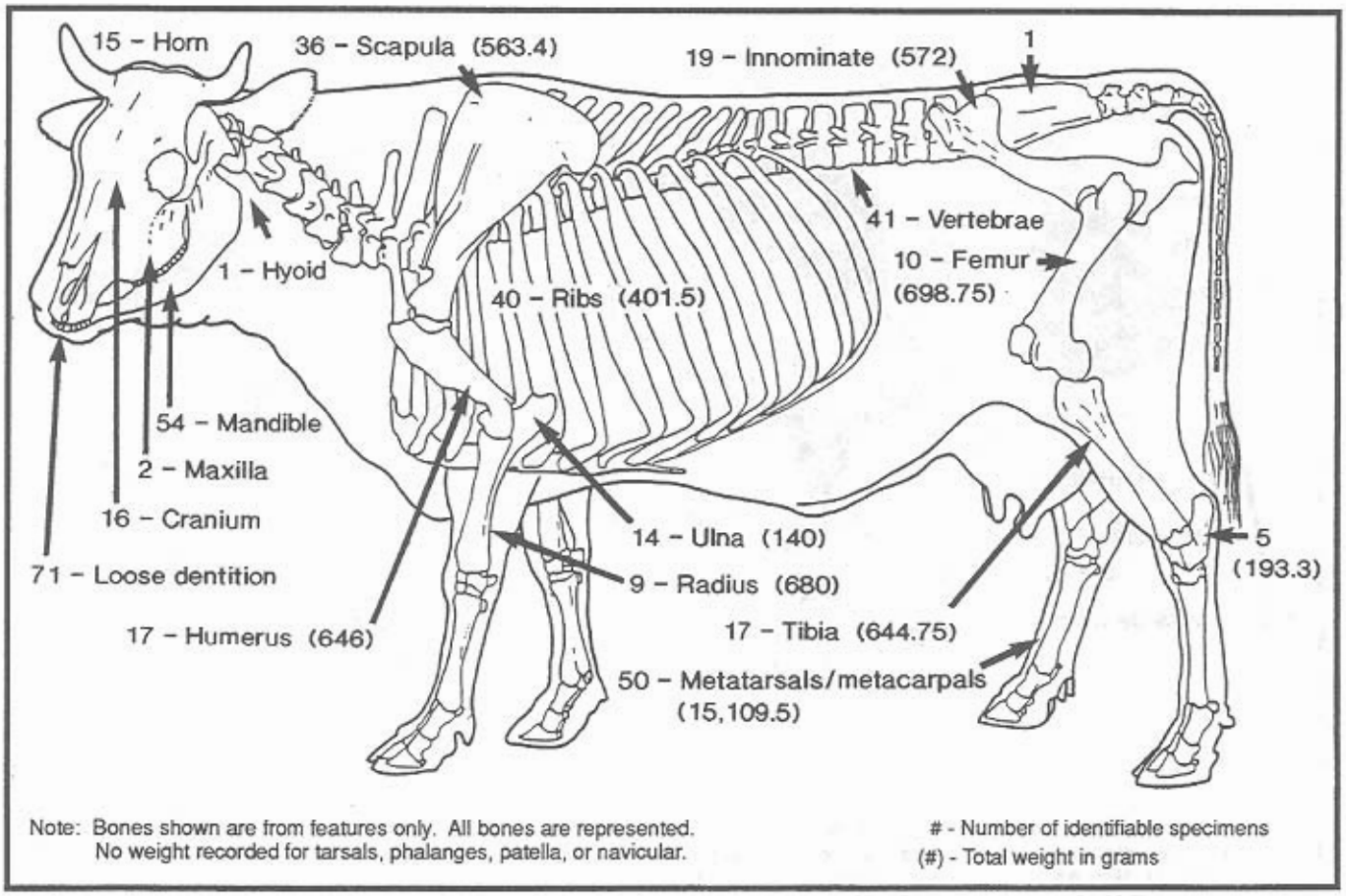
Note : Total excludes 191 fragments of a single, intrusive dog burial in Feature H23

The presence of a wide range of cow and pig remains, particularly skulls and mandibles, indicate that animals were butchered on site. The location and frequency of cow remains on a typical carcass is shown in Figure 69. Identical information for pig and sheep/goat remains is shown in Figures 70 and 71. Butchering marks were found on the bones of all major parts of all three species. Chop marks from cleavers, axes, or hatchets were more almost twice as common as knife marks. The prevalence of chop marks also suggests that animals were butchered and prepared on-site. Knife-marked and charred bones from all major cuts of meat from cow, pig, and sheep/goat are present in the sample. The presence of these marks indicate that most, if not all, of the butchered animals were largely consumed on-site.

Nearly a third (32%) of all 62 minimum animals were wild species (Table 18). White-tailed deer were by far the most important wild game hunted by the Powell family. At least six deer, including one large buck, were butchered and consumed at the site. Other wild game included at least two opossums,

FIGURE 69

## Location of Identifiable Cow Bone, John Powell Plantation



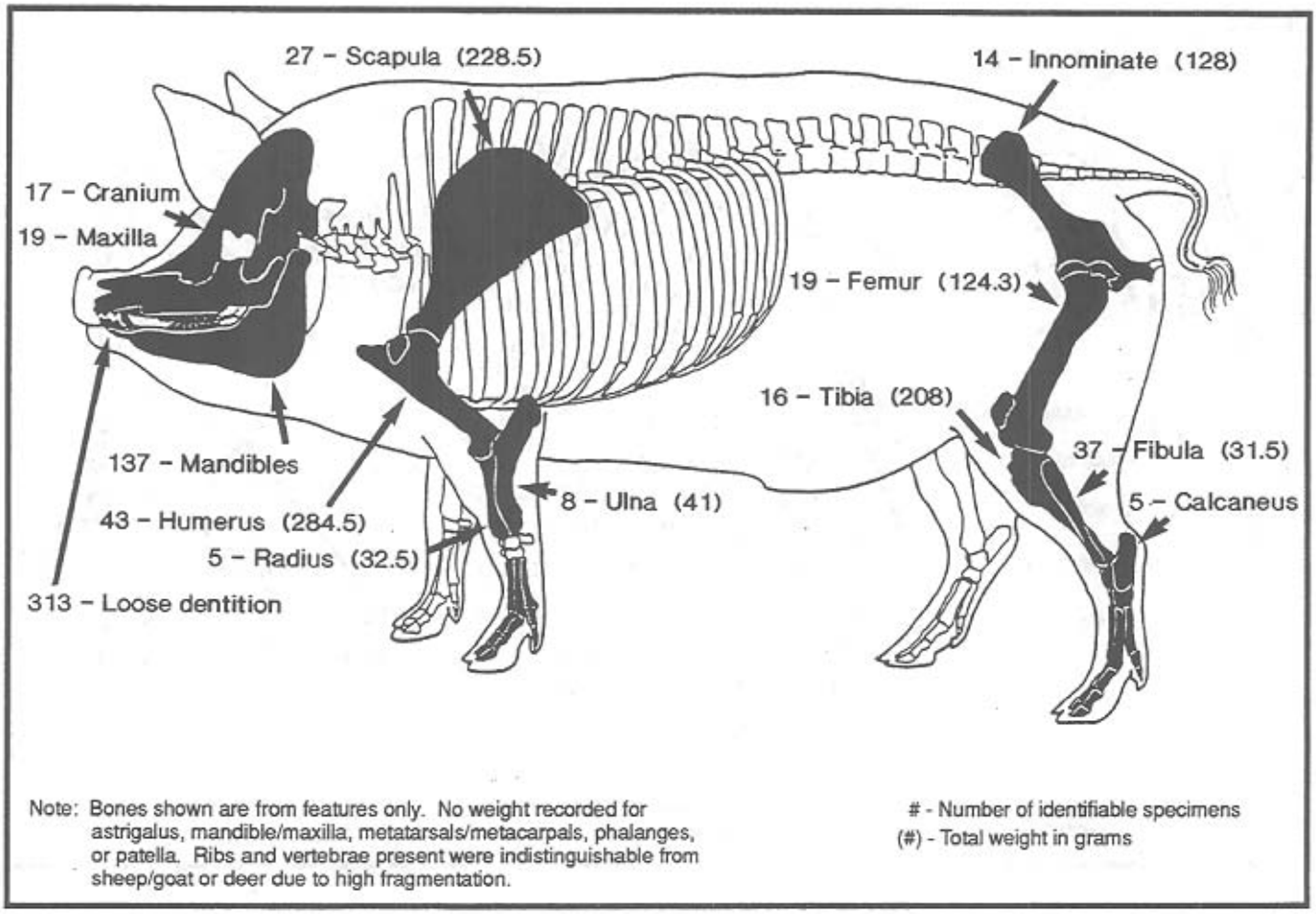

two rabbits, and four turtles. Shell fragments of one of the turtles, a snapping turtle, were charred. Five fish, including one perch and three catfish, also supplemented domestic food. Three unidentified birds and an old horse were also found at the Powell Plantation. All four animals came from the well, Feature H39.

A total of 383 identifiable charred floral remains were recovered from deep features at the Powell Plantation (Appendix V). Another 100 unidentified floral artifacts were found. Identifiable seeds and other floral artifacts were found in 10 features: the well (Feature H39), the cellar holes of two domestic structures (Features H10 and H11) and two outbuildings (Features H18 and H27), and five trash pits (Features H20, H28, H45, H62, and H29). The artifacts from only one feature, the well, could be attributed to a specific occupation. The floral materials from all of the other features could have been deposited during either occupation of the site or perhaps even later as intrusive materials.

Two-thirds of all identifiable remains came from the well (Feature H39). The most important food species appear to have been domestic corn, black walnuts, hickory nuts, blueberries, and raspberries. Other species, including lamb's-quarter (Chenopodium), wintercress (Barbarea), and Solomon's-seal, may have been eaten. The low quantity of these other species in the trash pits and other deep features, however, suggests that they were not regularly consumed.

FIGURE 70

## Location of Identifiable Pig Bone, John Powell Plantation

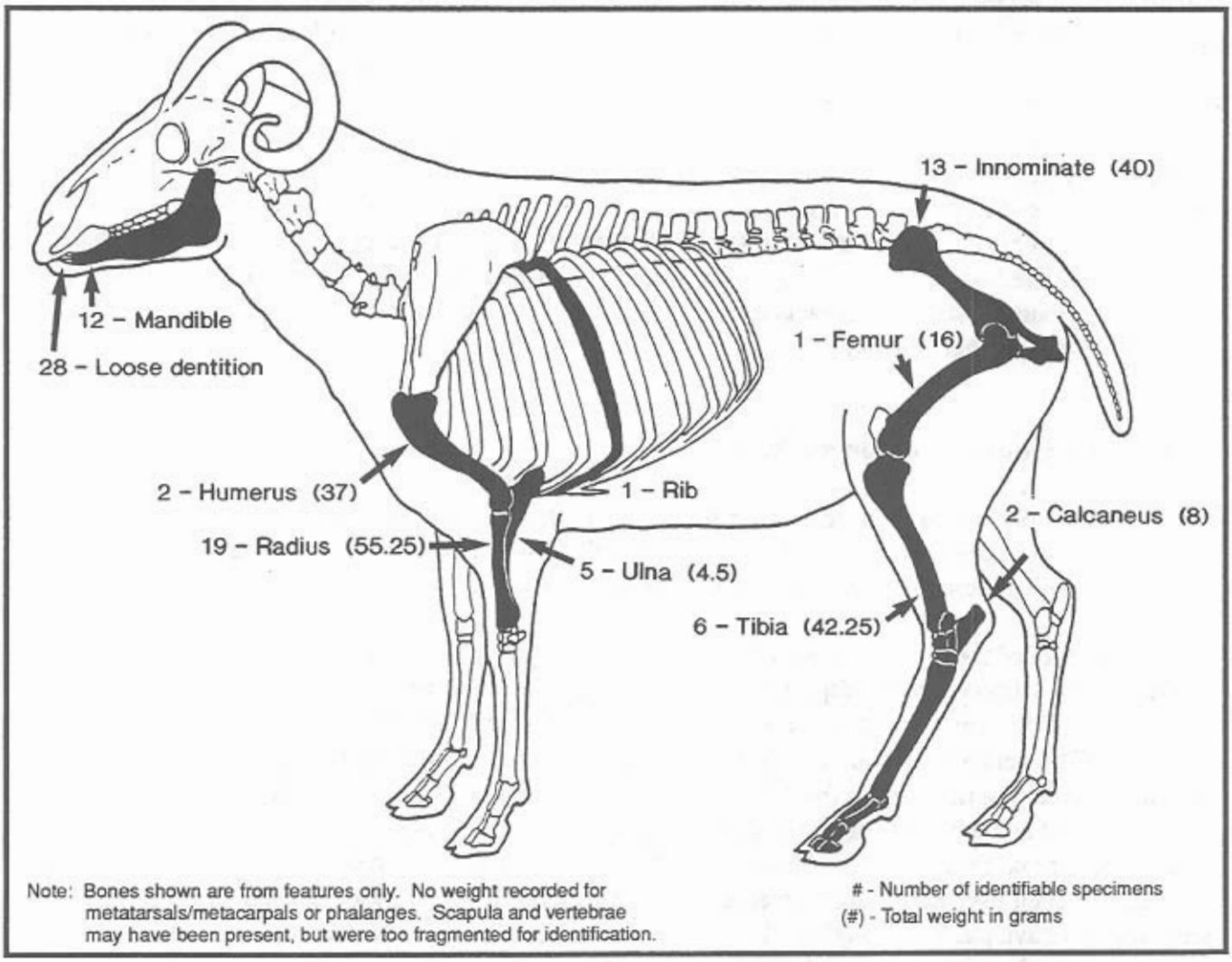



Farmland species were by far the most common species found in the deep features at the Powell Plantation. Thirty of the 56 total species (54%) were "weed" species adapted to cleared or disturbed land. The three most common open farmland species were Bermuda grass (Cynodon), sheep sorrel (Rumex), violets (Viola), and bristle grass (Setaria). Wetland species were the second most common plants. Fifteen wetland species (27%) were identified from all features. Smartweed (Polygonium), flatsedge (Cyperus), and mannagrass (Glyceria) were the three most common hydrophytic species. The wetland species probably came from the marshes of either the nearby Alston Branch or Leipsic River.

Only eleven woodland species, 19 percent of all species, were identified. Black walnut, blueberry, and hickory were the most common woodland species. Non-edible woodland species included alder (Alnus), bayberry (Myrica), and arrow wood (Viburnum). The low frequency of woodland species suggests that the Powell Plantation was cleared early in its occupation and remained primarily open farmland.

FIGURE 71

## Location of Identifiable Sheep/Goat Bone, John Powell Plantation




### Architectural Artifact Analysis

A total of 3,935 architectural artifacts were recovered from the site. An additional 18.8 kilograms of brick and mortar/daub fragments were recovered. All of the brick and mortar/daub fragments were small and poorly preserved. Less than five percent (0.9 kg) of the brick fragments were glazed. Almost all of the 3,935 artifacts (98%) were wrought, cut, and unidentified nail fragments. The remaining two percent of all architectural artifacts were 63 window glass fragments and 12 miscellaneous fasteners, lead window cames, and other metal artifacts.

Wrought nails were by far the most common identifiable nail. Almost three-quarters (69%) of the 1,318 identifiable nails were wrought. Cut nails comprised 30 percent of all identifiable nails. These nails were most common in the plow zone and may have come from a nearby nineteenth century farm. The five wire nails found at the site were also intrusive.

Six fragments of seventeenth century aqua window glass were found at the site. All of the other window glass fragments were later nineteenth and twentieth century clear glass. All six early window glass fragments were found in feature contexts, primarily the well. The four lead window cames also came from the well. The presence of so little window glass indicates that only a few windows were glazed at the site. Moreover, the presence of window glass in the only the well suggest that the Powell family, and not the later tenants, may have been the only occupation to enjoy glazed windows. No embossed names or dates were found inside the cames. All of the cames were less than 1 1/2 inches long. The wide grooves of the lead reeds, however, are typical of seventeenth century cames. Two other notable architectural artifacts were found. The first artifact was a large three inch long "H" shaped hinge. The hinge had two wrought iron nails fragments still attached. The second artifact was an iron thumb latch found in the plow zone above Feature H11. The latch probably secured a wooden shutter over a window or other opening.

**Arms and Equestrian Equipment Analysis**

A total of 77 arms-related and ten horse-related artifacts were recovered from plow zone and feature contexts at the Powell Plantation. All of the 97 arms artifacts dated to the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries except for one later shot gun shell found in the plow zone.

Seventy of the 76 early arms artifacts (91%) were gunflints and gunflint flakes. The six other artifacts were a brass ramrod clip, two fragments of a stone shot mold, and three lead musket balls (Figure 62). The ram rod clip was reeded and dates to before 1725 (McCarthy, Snyder,and Roulette 1991:73). The ramrod clip and one fragment of a sandstone shot mold came from the well. The other fragment of the shot mold came from Feature H10. These two fragments mended. Six cavities from 7/32nds to 1/4 of an inch in diameter were present in the shot mold. These cavities would have produced small shot approximately 1/4 inch in diameter. Such shot was typically called swan or goose shot, and would have been used on medium-sized game. None of the 1/4-inch shot, however, was found at the site, and may have passed through the 1/4-inch screens. The three other lead balls found at the site were all approximately 0.32 inches in diameter (.32 caliber). None of these projectiles were made in the surviving portions of the shot mold.

Nine gunflints and 61 gunflint fragments were found at the Powell Plantation. All 70 artifacts were made of European, probably English, flint. The nine gunflints were small, heavily worn, and carefully curated (Figure 62). Two of the flints were professionally made English gun spalls. Three more gunflints had been locally made from crudely prepared flakes of English flint. All nine gunflints showed used on at least two edges and had been dressed multiple times. A variety of percussion and pressure flaking techniques had been used to create usable edges. Three gunflints had also been used as strike-a-lights. The prevalence of gunflint curation and manufacture is reflected in the large number of gunflint flakes found at the site. Thirty-four of the 61 flakes (56%) had cortex, indicating local manufacture from cobble sources. The remaining 44 percent of the flakes were small, resharpening flakes without any cortex.

Ten horse-related artifacts came from the well. All of the artifacts probably came from one ornate bridle and harness. Two other small buckle fragments that may have been part of horse gear were also found in Feature H10 and the plow zone above the well. The 10 diagnostic horse-related artifacts

from the well consisted of two small buckles, a "D" ring, a jointed snaffle bit with cheeks or shanks, a decorative harness boss, two decorative floral bridle mounts, a thin 13/16-inch silver disk, a spur clip, and a broken reinforcement ring for a harness tree. The buckles, D-ring, snaffle bit, and harness tree ring were iron. The harness boss, floral bridle mount, and spur clip were made of copper alloy.

The snaffle bit, floral mount, boss, D-ring, and at least one buckle probably came from one heavily worn bridle discarded in the well by the Powell family. All of these artifacts suggest an English style of riding where the horse's neck is kept up and the nose pointed down. The location of these artifacts on a typical English mount are shown in Figure 72. The boss and snaffle bit came from two different types of bits that were frequently, but not necessarily, used in tandem in the English style of riding (Price 1977:112-17). The boss was part of a curb bit. The snaffle bit was jointed and had cheek pieces or shanks. Noel Hume (1970: 241) dates such snaffle or watering bits, to as early as ca. 1730 and this date is consistent with the ca. 1721 fill of the well. The boss is made of cast copper alloy with concentric grooves decoration, a typical early eighteenth century design (Noel Hume 1970: 240). Noel Hume also notes that bosses were commonly tin-plated to resemble silver. Although no clear evidence of plating remains on this boss, such plating would have complemented the silver decorative disk.

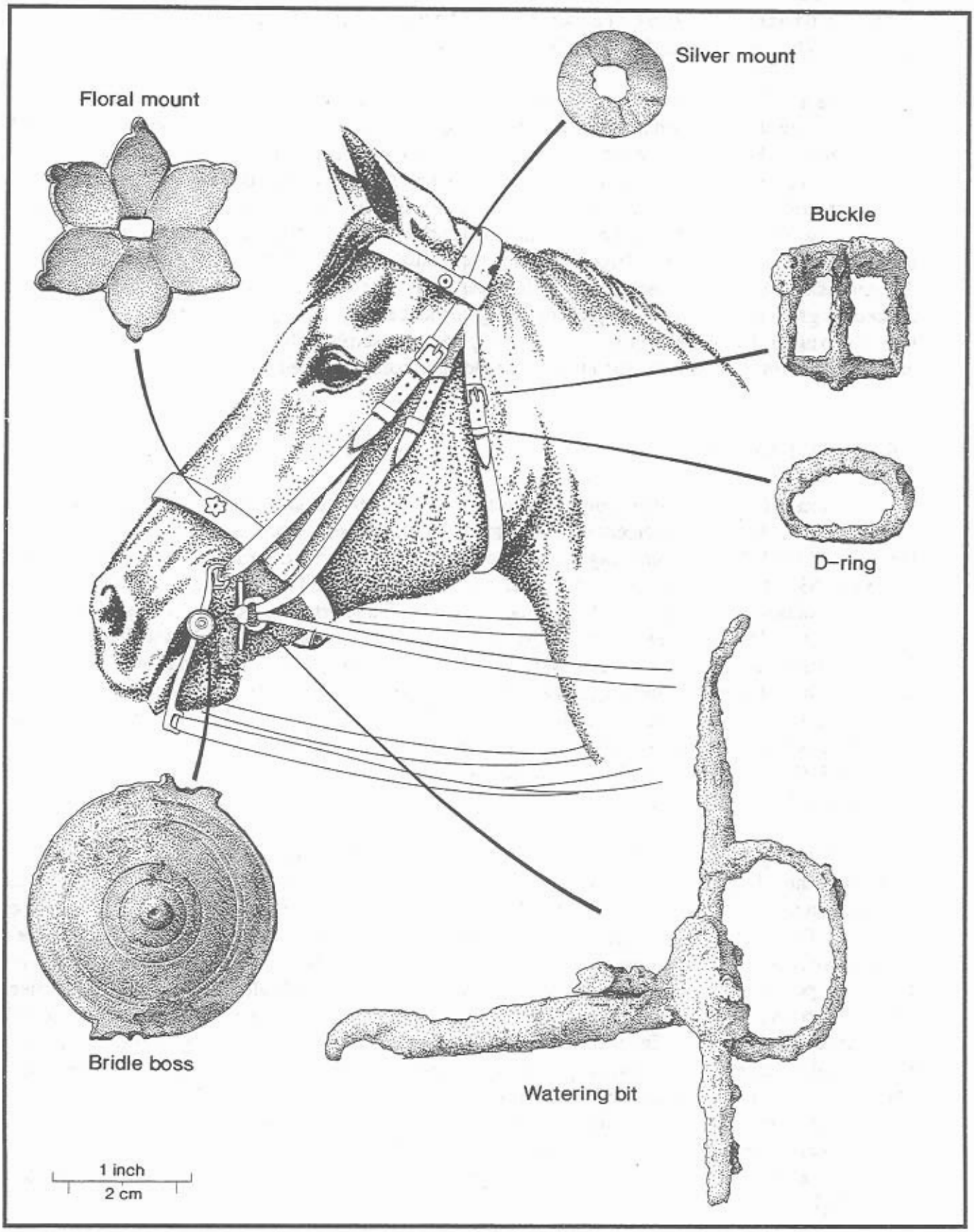
**Tobacco Pipe Analysis**

A total of 1,255 white clay pipe fragments were recovered from plow zone and feature contexts at 7K-C-203H. Sixty-eight percent of all fragments (860 fragments) came from undisturbed contexts. Only 618 of the 1,255 total pipe fragments were stem fragments with measurable bore diameters. The remaining 637 fragments were primarily small pipe bowl fragments. The bore diameters were measured for the 618 diagnostic fragments. The two most common diameters were 5/64ths (N=294, 48%) and 6/64ths (N=275, 44%). The next most common diameters were 7/64ths (N=37, 6%) and 4/64ths (N=12, 2%). No pipes with other diameters were found. Harrington's (1954) histogram of bore diameter relative to date of manufacture suggests a mean occupation date of ca. 1710. The mean pipe stem date for the site using the Binford (1962) formula is 1719.7 (mean of 5.54). The mean date of the 424 measurable stems from feature contexts is 1723.0 (mean of 5.44) and the 194 plow zone stems is 1710.7 (mean of 5.78). A mean date of 1719.7 for the entire site fits well with the 1691 to ca. 1735 occupation indicated by documentary sources.

Only 22 pipe bowl fragments contained maker's marks or other identification. All of the marks came from three Bristol manufacturers: Robert Tippet, Thomas Owens, and Lleullin Evans. No Dutch or terracotta pipes were found. As is typical of Bristol "export" pipes produced after ca. 1690, none of the Powell Plantation tobacco pipes had heels or spurs (Noel Hume 1970:305). Three separate maker's marks were identified. The most common marks were "R T" for the ubiquitous Robert Tippet. Three Robert Tippets manufactured pipes in Bristol between 1660 and 1720 (Humphries 1991:102; Walker 1977: 11316-18). Fifteen bowl fragments with various molded and incised Tippet marks were found. The other two makers identified were probably Thomas Owens and Lluellin Evans. Both makers were represented by single small bowl fragments with partial incised marks. The probable Owens piece marked "O" was found in Feature H11. The probable Evans piece marked "L" was found in Feature H10. Three Thomas Owens manufactured pipes in Bristol from 1696-1739 (Walker 1977:1472). Lluellin Evans produced pipes from 1661-1688 (Walker 1977:1428). Evans's pipes have been found on other late seventeenth century sites including the Mattapany-Sewall Site in Maryland (Smolek, Pogue, and Clark 1984:8).

FIGURE 72

# Horse Gear, John Powell Plantation



## Tools and Miscellaneous Artifact Analysis

Three tools were recovered from the well, Feature H39 (Figure 63). All three artifacts came from the well shaft fill and can be attributed to the Powell occupation. The first tool is the head and part of the wooden handle of an iron claw hammer. The second tool is a complete, 5 1/4-inch long bone handle with the remains of a wrought iron tang still in place. The third artifact was a small fragment of a fine-grained sandstone whetstone.

One unusual artifact, a cannon ball fragment, was found in the upper part of the well shaft fill. The fragment weighed slightly over one pound and was approximately one quarter of a four pound cast iron cannon ball. The object was heavily encrusted, but showed no evidence of welded rings or other use-wear was found.

## Soil Chemical Distributions

The distributions of plow zone and subsoil chemicals from the Powell Plantation were analyzed to provide additional information on farmstead layout, activity areas, and trash disposal patterns. Five distinct soil chemicals were analyzed over a 131- x 180-foot area: pH (Figure 73), phosphorus (Figure 74), calcium (Figure 75), magnesium (Figure 76), and potassium (Figure 77). Subsoil chemical densities consistently yielded clearer evidence of the seventeenth and early eighteenth century occupation of the site than plow zone densities. The difference between subsoil and plow zone soil chemical distributions is especially clear in the distribution of soil pH and phosphorus shown in Figures 73 and 74. Subsoil distributions of both chemicals consistently showed greater significant variation than plow zone distributions.

The distribution of soil phosphorus (Figure 74) has been used to identify areas of concentrated animal waste resulting from historical animals pens, barns, and privies. Two areas of high subsoil phosphorus were identified at the Powell Plantation. The highest densities were found along the east side of Outbuilding IV. The second area of concentrated subsoil phosphorus were found along the east, south, and west sides of the two Powell houses, Features H10 and H11. The western edge of the second concentration was Fenceline B.

The area of concentrated phosphorus near Outbuilding IV suggests that this outbuilding may have been a barn or stable. The structure probably had a small pen along the east side of the building. Except for two posts holes, however, no archaeological features indicating a pen were found near Outbuilding IV. Indeed, no pen may have existed. Livestock may have roamed free outside of the house yard and only kept near Outbuilding IV to fatten them or protect them in winter. Similar soil chemical and archaeological evidence of free-roaming livestock, primarily cattle, were identified at the Strickland Plantation (Catts et al. 1994). No significant phosphorus densities were found near Outbuilding IV in the plow zone.

The second area of concentrated soil phosphorus was along the south, east, and west sides of the Powell houses. High chemical densities were evident in both the plow zone and subsoil distributions (Figure 74). The highest densities were located south of the house between Feature H10 and the well and Outbuilding IV. The high densities of phosphorus near the Powell house indicate two activities.

FIGURE 73

# Distributions of Soil pH, John Powell Plantation

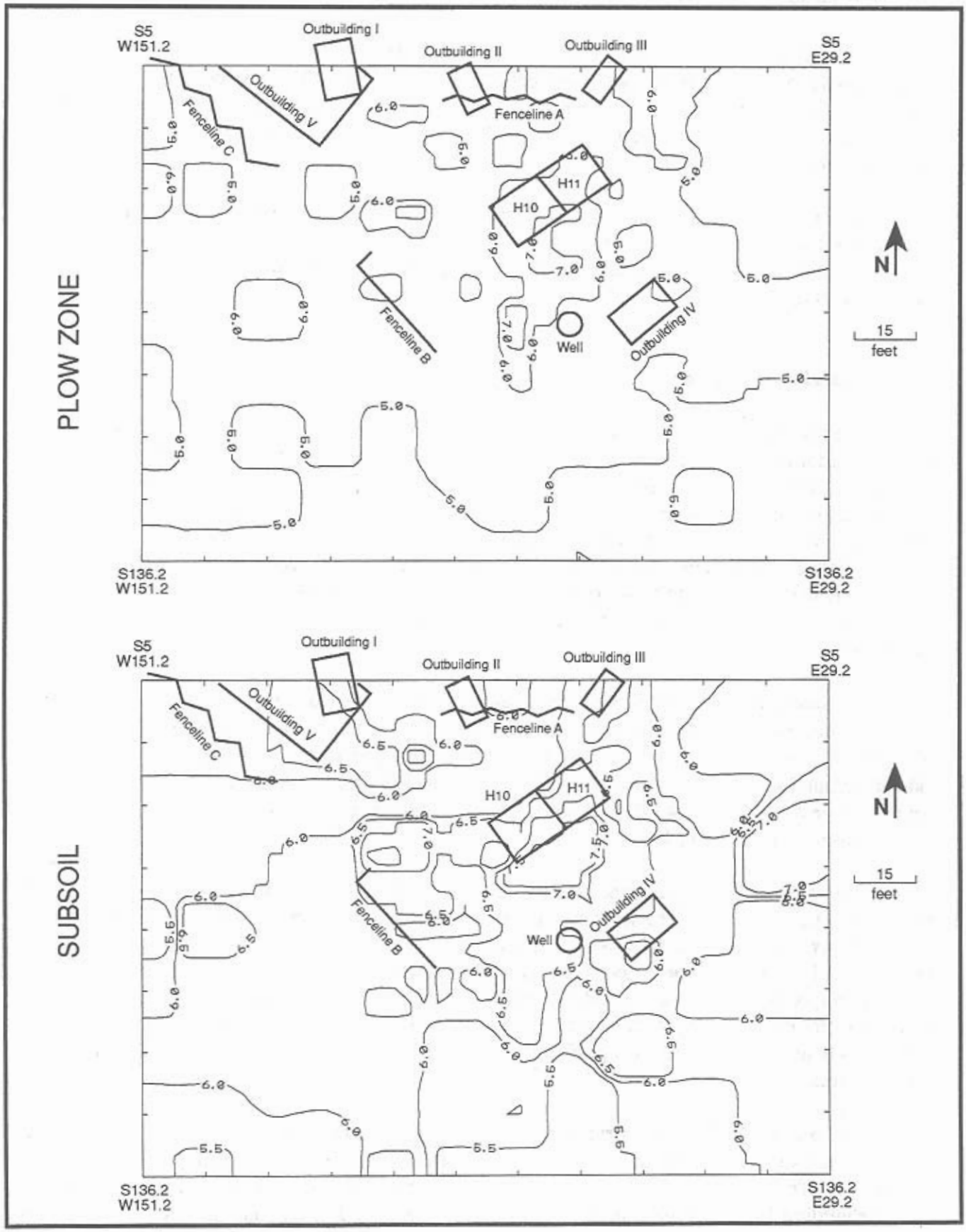
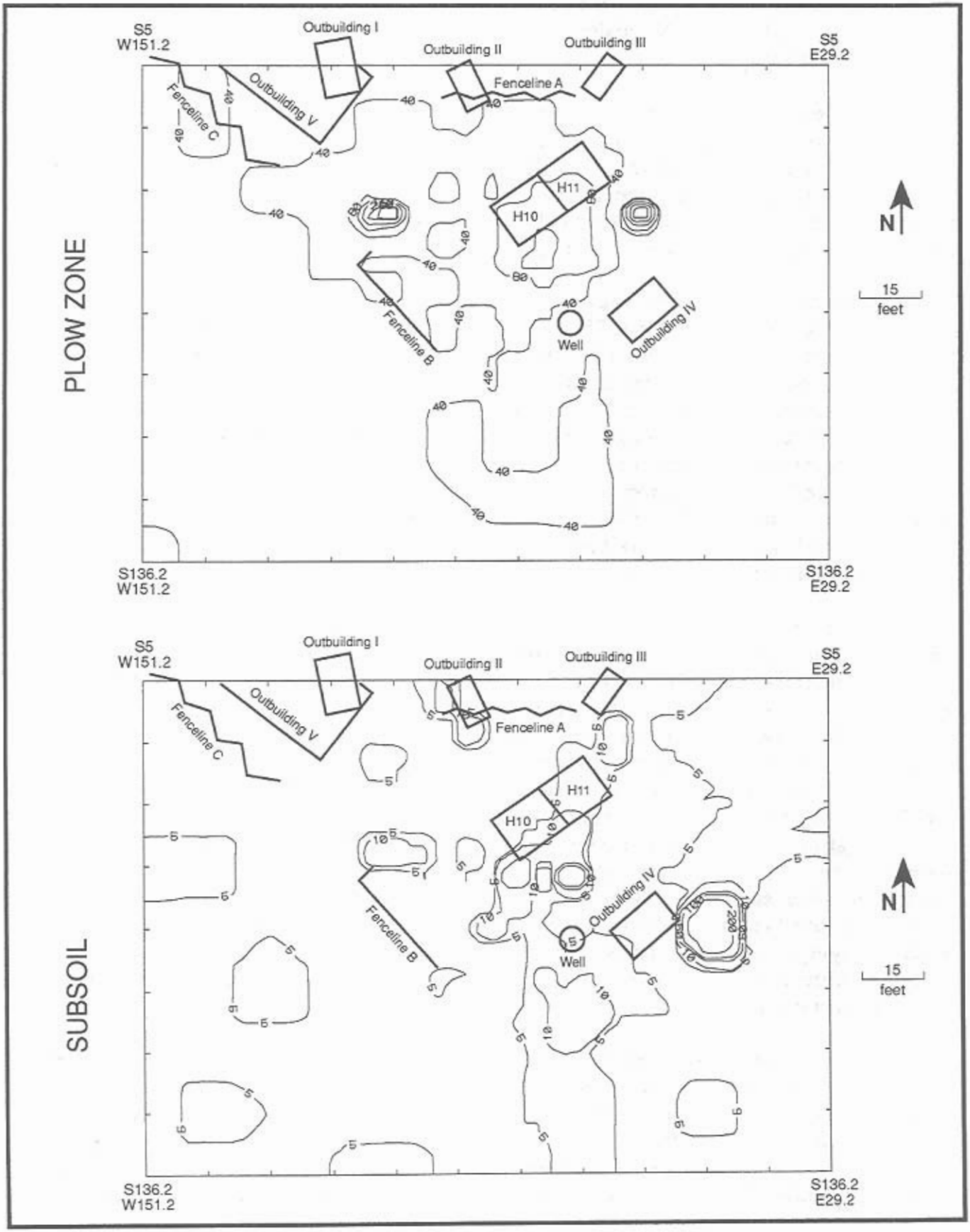


FIGURE 74

# Distributions of Soil Phosphorus, John Powell Plantation



First, animals may have been penned in the yard area south of Features H10 and H11. The yard area was bounded on the west by Fenceline B and on the south by the well and Outbuilding IV. Second, human waste may have been deposited near the house. Similar waste disposal patterns were found at the Richard Whitehart Plantation. No privies or chamber pots were found at either plantation, suggesting distinctly casual sanitation practices.

The absence of phosphorus concentrations at the other three outbuildings at the Powell Site is significant. No substantial phosphorus concentrations were found in the plow zone or subsoil at Outbuildings I, II, III, and V. The lack of phosphorus at these sites confirms that none of the outbuildings probably held livestock for any period. Moreover, each of these four outbuildings was probably constructed and used as agricultural outbuildings not associated with livestock. Outbuilding V, the tobacco house, is particularly devoid of phosphorus concentrations.

The distributions of plow zone and subsoil calcium confirm the location of the two Powell houses, Features H10 and H11 (Figure 75). Calcium levels along the south side of both dwellings were 5 to 10 times higher than the surrounding area. Subsoil calcium densities were even more closely oriented to the house than plow zone densities. Such high chemical densities were the result of mortar and other calcium rich building materials deposited when the buildings were razed. Because soil chemical densities are the result of long periods of chemical accumulation, no distinction between materials deposited during the two periods of construction at the site could be made. One other area of medium calcium density was identified along the north end of Fenceline B. High concentrations of subsoil phosphorus were also found in this area (Figure 74). The presence of both high phosphorus and calcium densities along Fenceline B suggest casual trash deposition. These high densities of calcium and phosphorus, however, did not extend to the cluster of large daub/trash pits 30 feet to the east.

Soil magnesium was distributed significantly differently than calcium. Magnesium densities indicate areas of intense surface burning or wood ash deposits. Plow zone magnesium was highest in two small areas (Figure 76). The first area was south of the Powell houses between Fenceline B and the well. The second "peak" was north of Features H10 and H11 near Fenceline A. Neither of these areas appeared in the subsoil. Subsoil magnesium densities varied comparatively little over the entire site (Figure 76). These distributions of magnesium are difficult to interpret. On nineteenth and twentieth century sites, magnesium distributions tend to mirror calcium distributions (Grettler et al. 1994; Catts and Custer 1990:181). However, magnesium densities at the Powell and Whitehart plantations differed considerably from calcium. The difference between calcium and magnesium densities may be unique to seventeenth and eighteenth century sites. The difference between plow zone and subsoil magnesium densities, however, suggests that other site-specific factors may be causing the variation. Catts et al. (1994) encountered similar difficulties in interpreting magnesium densities at the Strickland Plantation, a nearby early eighteenth century farmstead near Smyrna. Pogue (1988) also found magnesium densities difficult to interpret at the King's Reach Site, a late seventeenth and early eighteenth century plantation on the Patuxent River.

The distribution of soil potassium has been used to identify areas where wood ash has been deposited. Subsoil potassium was concentrated in four discrete areas (Figure 77). The area of highest chemical density was along the east side of Outbuilding IV where subsoil phosphorus was also greatest. The second concentration of potassium was in the middle of the yard between the houses and Outbuilding IV. The last two areas were moderate phosphorus concentrations along Fenceline A and the northeast corner of Outbuilding V. None of the subsoil concentrations appeared in the plow zone. All four subsoil

FIGURE 75

# Distributions of Soil Calcium, John Powell Plantation

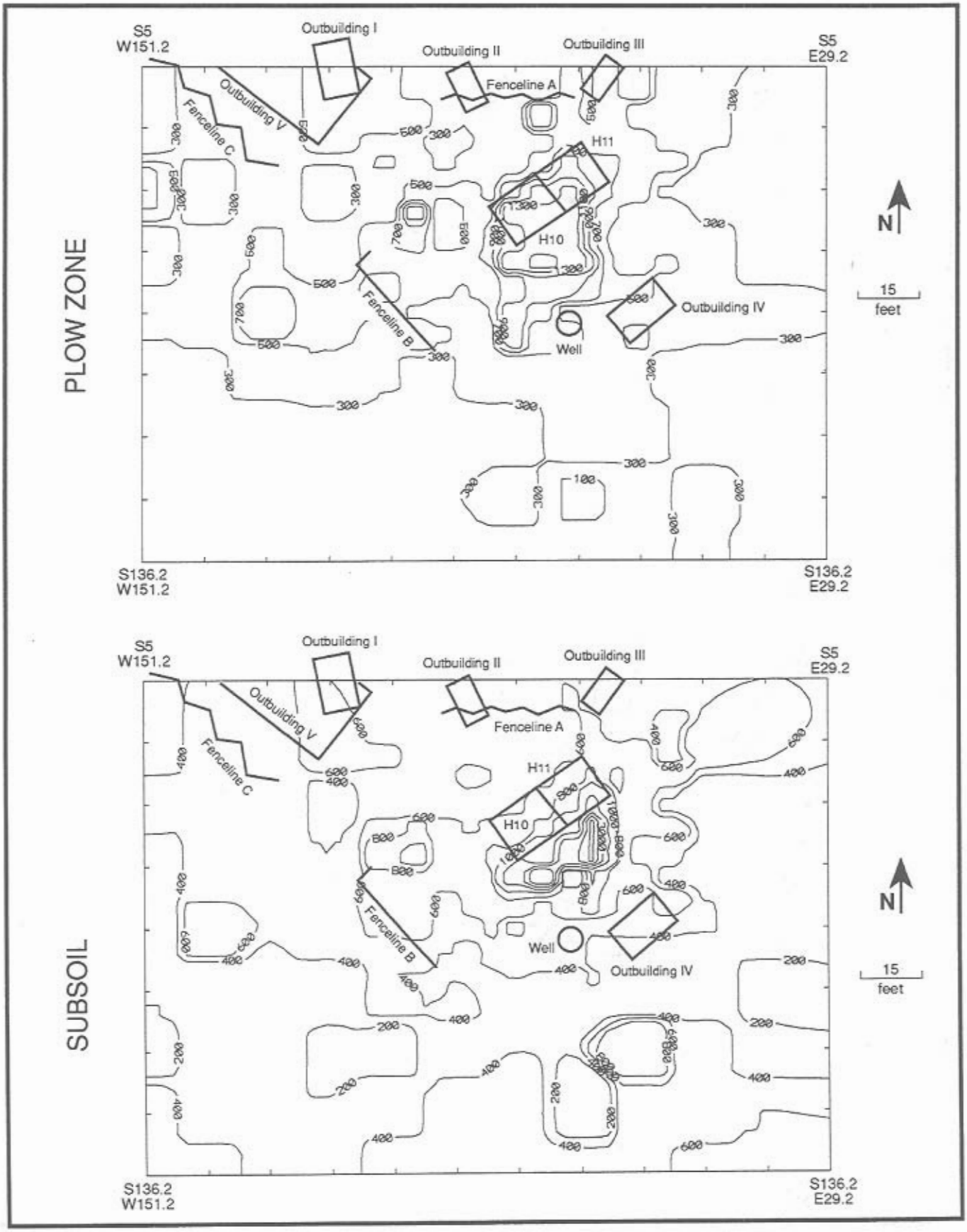


FIGURE 76

# Distributions of Soil Magnesium, John Powell Plantation

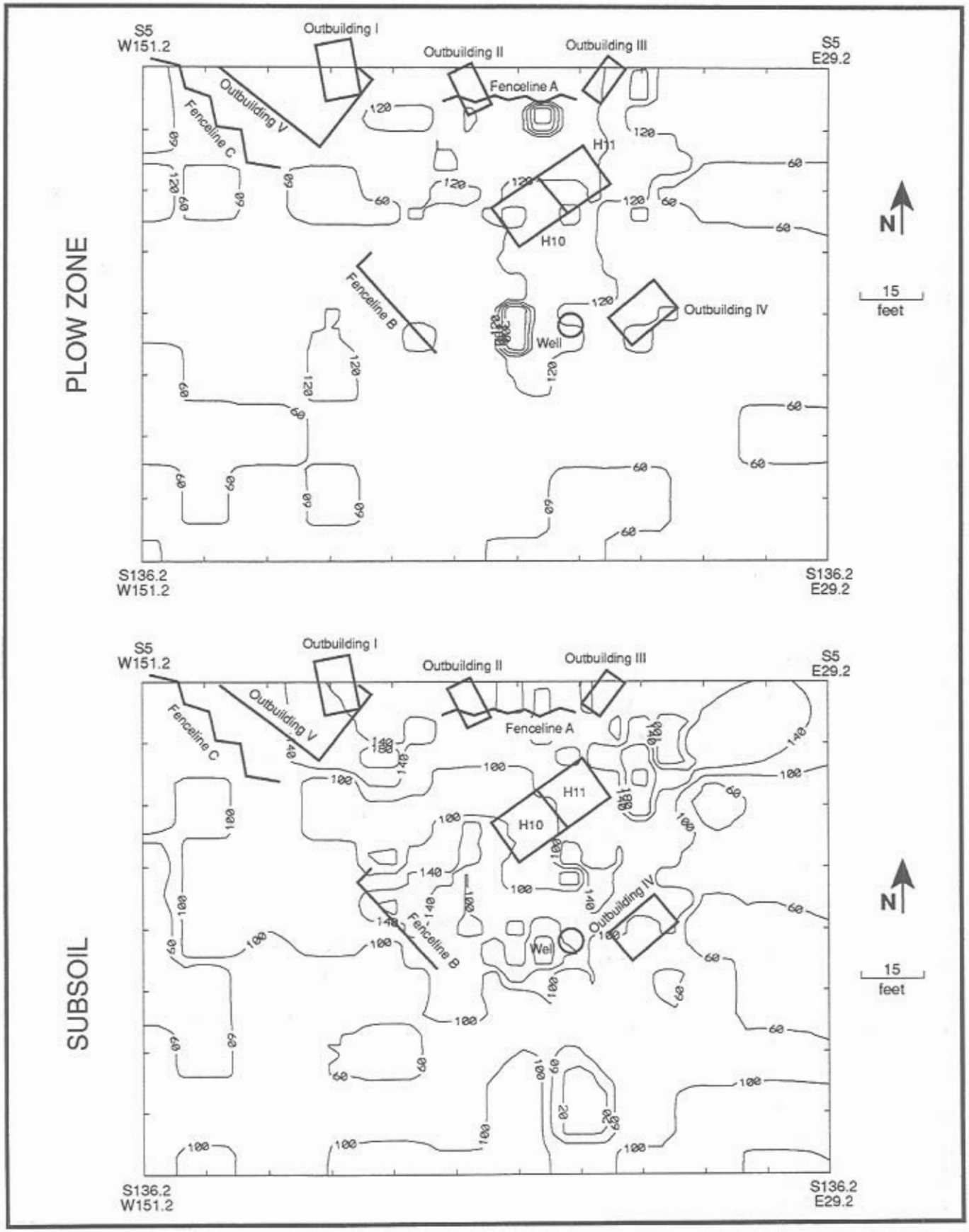
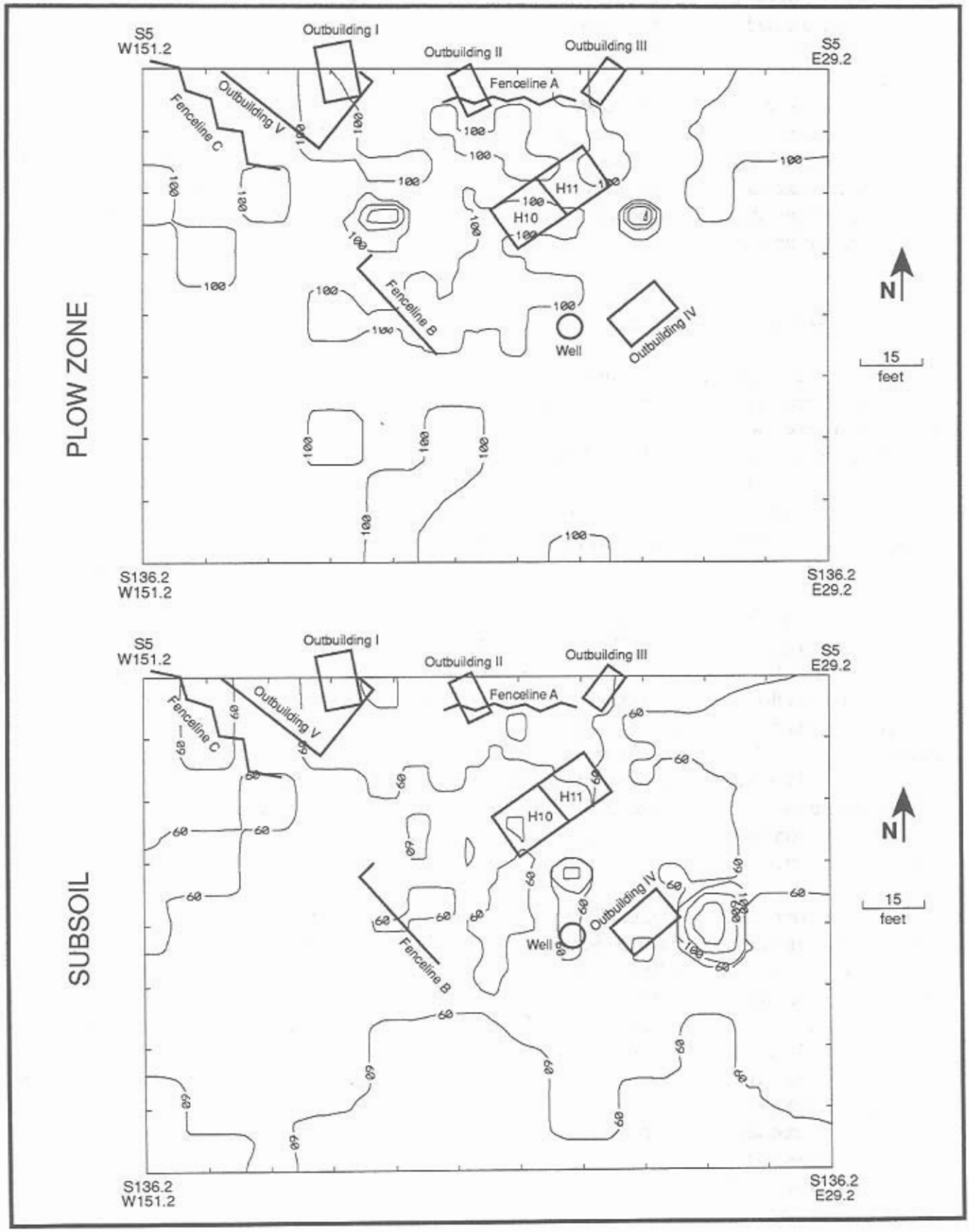


FIGURE 77

# Distributions of Soil Potassium, John Powell Plantation



phosphorus concentrations are located in known activity and domestic trash disposal areas. The three areas nearest to the houses, especially the two concentrations along the northern edge of the site, are the result of casual wood ash disposal. The highest chemical concentration near Outbuilding IV, however, may also indicate additional outdoor activities that would have produced large quantities of wood ash. Hog-boiling and pearl ash production are two such activities.

In conclusion, soil chemical distributions confirmed the location of the two Powell houses and activity areas along the east, south, and west sides of the domestic structures. High subsoil phosphorus densities identified Outbuilding IV as a barn or stable. Consistently low phosphorus densities around the other four outbuildings, particularly the tobacco house (Outbuilding V), suggest they did not house animals for extended periods. The most intensively used part of the site was the yard area between the two houses and Fenceline B, the well, and Outbuilding IV.

### Plow Zone Artifact Distributions

The distributions of plow zone artifacts at the John Powell Plantation were analyzed to provide additional information on farmstead layout, activity areas, and trash disposal patterns. Plow zone testing consisted of the excavation of 155 1- x 1-meter test units over a 197- x 98-foot (60- x 30-meter) area of high artifact density as identified by the Phase II testing (Figure 52). Computer-generated distribution maps were prepared for three major groups of artifacts: architectural, ceramic, and non-ceramic artifacts. The three major groups were then divided into thirteen unique artifact categories and mapped separately. White clay pipes were additionally mapped by bore diameter to identify temporal change in activity areas.

Three separate categories of architectural artifacts were mapped; total architectural artifacts (Figure 78), wrought nails (Figure 79), and brick (Figure 80). Window glass was not mapped because too few artifacts, less than 50, were found. The distributions of total architectural artifacts (Figure 78) confirms the location of the two domestic structures, Feature H10 and H11. Total architectural artifact densities over the houses ranged from 8 to 28 artifacts per test unit. Densities were highest directly over Features H10 and H11 and slightly to the south. Architectural artifact density, however, dropped off quickly beyond the two houses. Very low architectural artifact densities, zero to four artifacts per test unit, were found over all five outbuildings. Such low densities suggests that the two dwellings were the only buildings on the site that used large amounts of either brick or nails, the two most common architectural artifacts.

The difference in architectural artifact density between the domestic structures and outbuildings is even more apparent in the distributions of wrought nails and brick (Figure 79). Wrought nails were only found near the two dwellings. Brick densities were also highest over Features H10 and H11 (Figure 80). Small amounts of brick, however, were also found near the well. These occasional fragments are not located near any known structure and were probably deposited near the well when the buildings were razed and the site abandoned. Brick, however, was not equally distributed over both dwellings (Figure 80). Significantly more brick was also found over Feature H10, the earlier dwelling, than Feature H11. Two distinct concentrations in Feature H10 were identified. The first peak was near the center of the structure. The second peak was along the south wall near the southwest corner of the building. This second peak may be the remains of a chimney/hearth for the first dwelling, Feature H10. The first peak may be evidence of a second chimney/hearth constructed later for the Feature H11 dwelling.

FIGURE 78

Distribution of Total Architectural Artifacts, John Powell Plantation

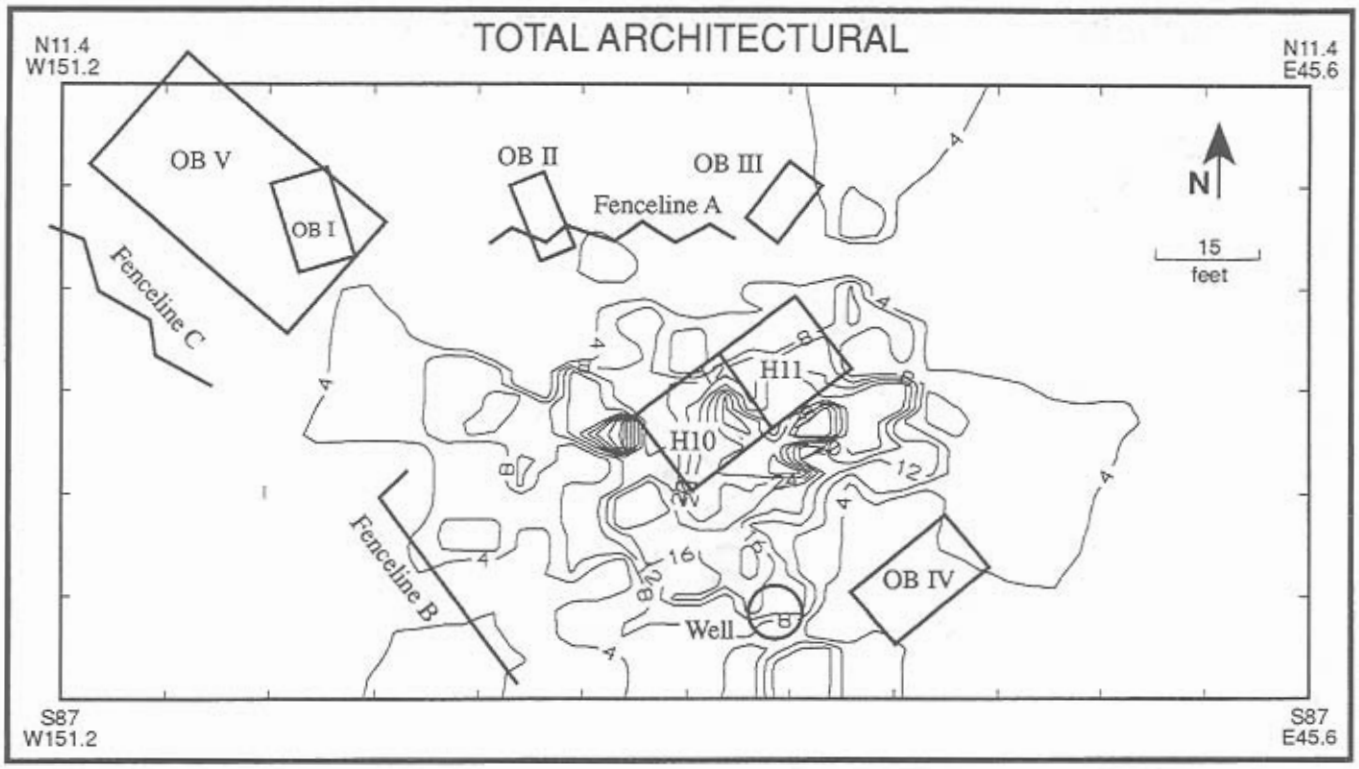



FIGURE 79

Distribution of Wrought Nails, John Powell Plantation

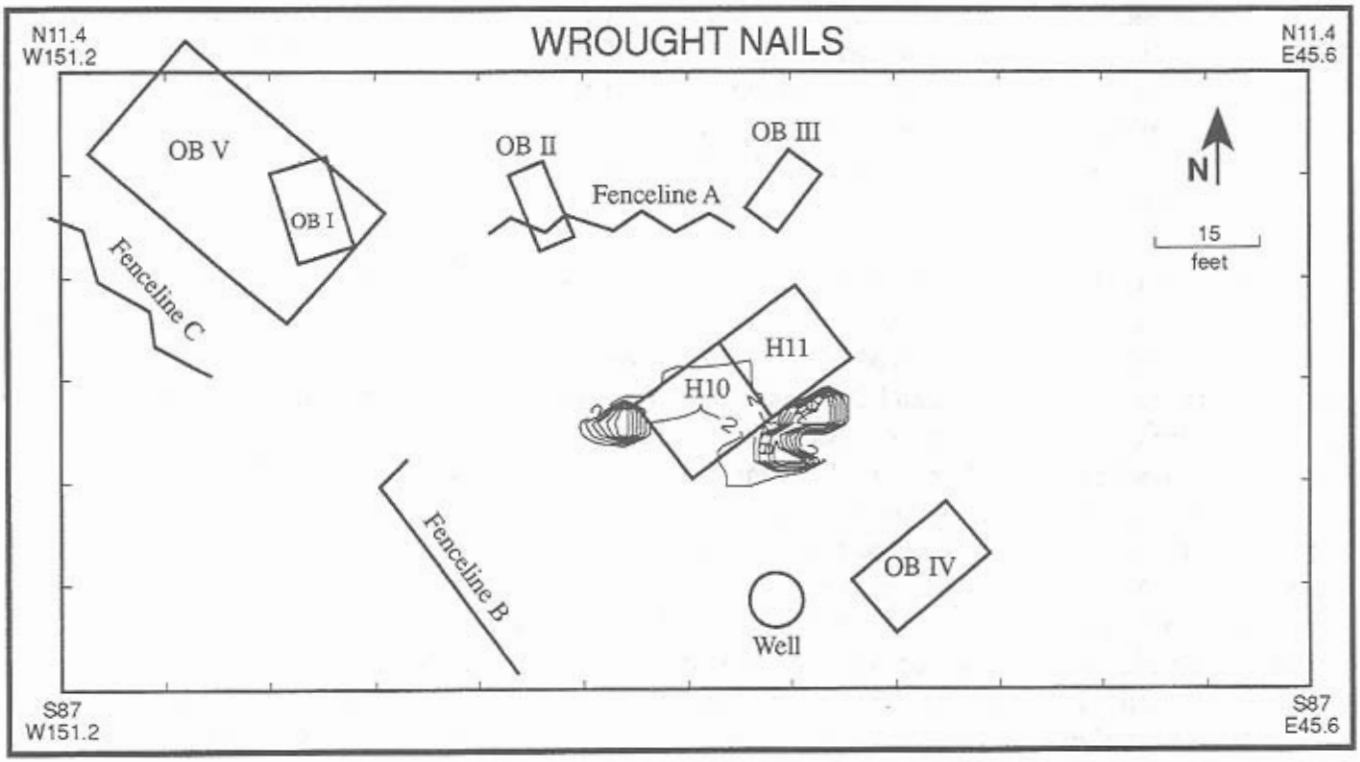
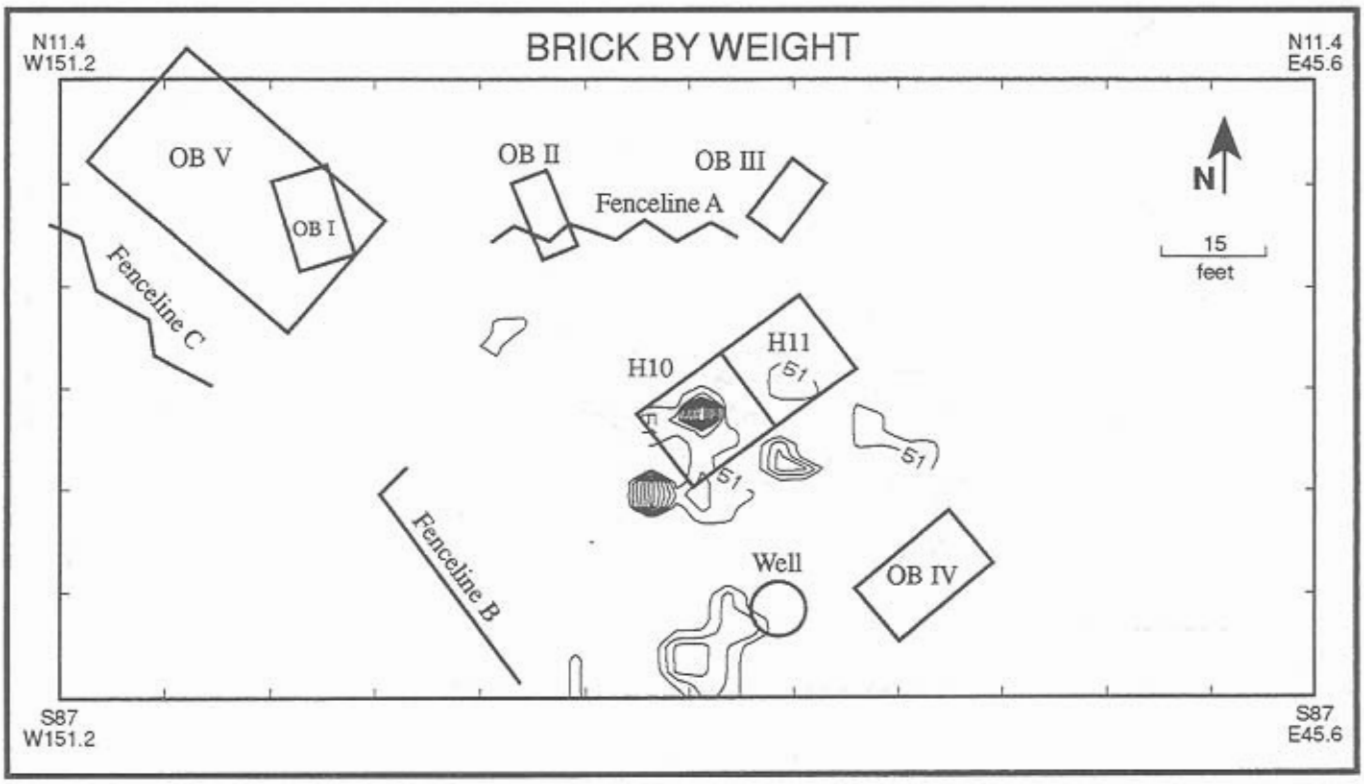


FIGURE 80

## Distribution of Bricks by Weight, John Powell Plantation




Four categories of historical ceramics were mapped: total seventeenth and eighteenth century ceramic artifacts (Figure 81), redwares (Figure 82), Staffordshire wares (Figure 83), and stonewares (Figure 84). Staffordshire was the only individual ware type with enough artifacts, more than 50, to map meaningfully. Total seventeenth and early eighteenth century wares consisted of all ceramics except seven post-occupation whiteware sherds. The stoneware category consisted of all German blue-and-gray and English brown stonewares.

Seventeenth and early eighteenth century ceramics were concentrated in two areas of the site (Figure 81). The first and largest concentration of historical ceramics was in the front yard of the two houses. The front yard area measured 30 x 50 feet and was bounded on the north by Features H10 and H11 and on the south by the well and Outbuilding IV. The western edge of the front yard was Fenceline B. The eastern edge was less defined, but probably did not extend past the northeast corner of Feature H11. The second area of medium to high ceramic artifact density was east of the two houses. The area corresponds to a side yard. Between four and twelve ceramic artifacts per test unit were found in this area. High historical ceramic densities in the front and side yard confirm these two areas as primary activity areas. Very low densities, however, were found north and west of the two houses (Figure 81). Less than two artifacts per test unit were found over Fenceline A, Fenceline C, and Outbuildings I, II, III, and V. Similarly low artifact densities were found over the daub/trash pits west of Feature H10. Six of the seven daub/trash pits at the site were located here, but few ceramics were found in the plow zone. The distributions of specific ceramic types, specifically redware, Staffordshire, and stonewares, followed identical patterns (Figures 82 - 84).

FIGURE 81

Distribution of Total 17th and 18th Century Ceramics, John Powell Plantation

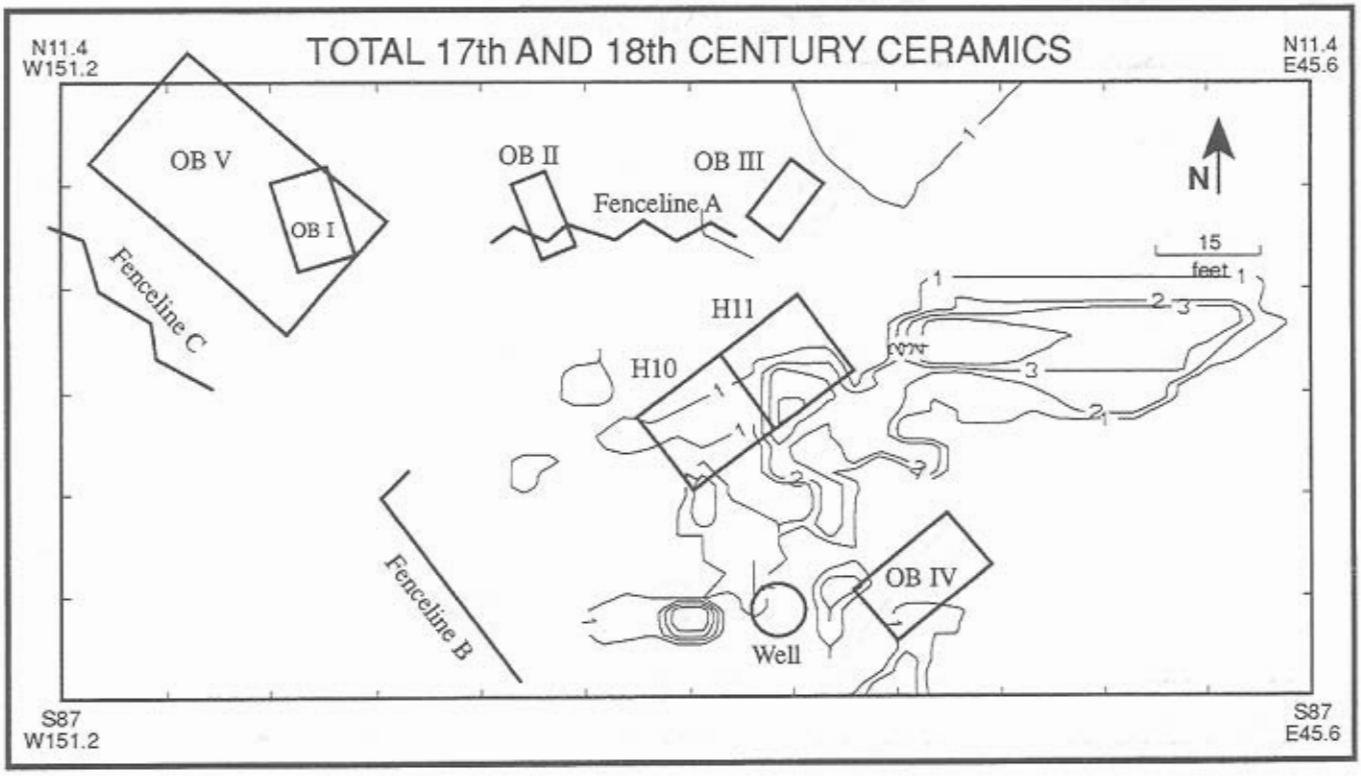



FIGURE 82

Distribution of Redware, John Powell Plantation

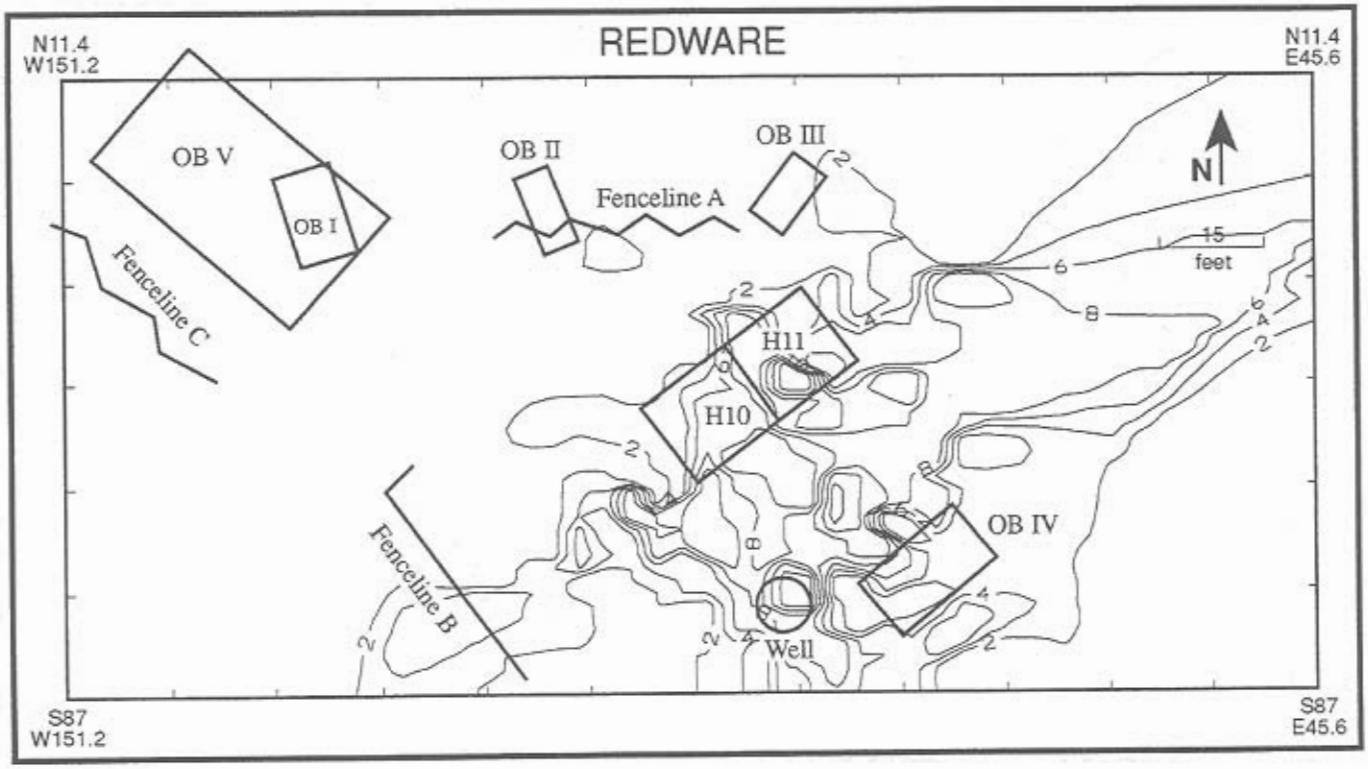


FIGURE 83

Distribution of Staffordshire Ceramics, John Powell Plantation

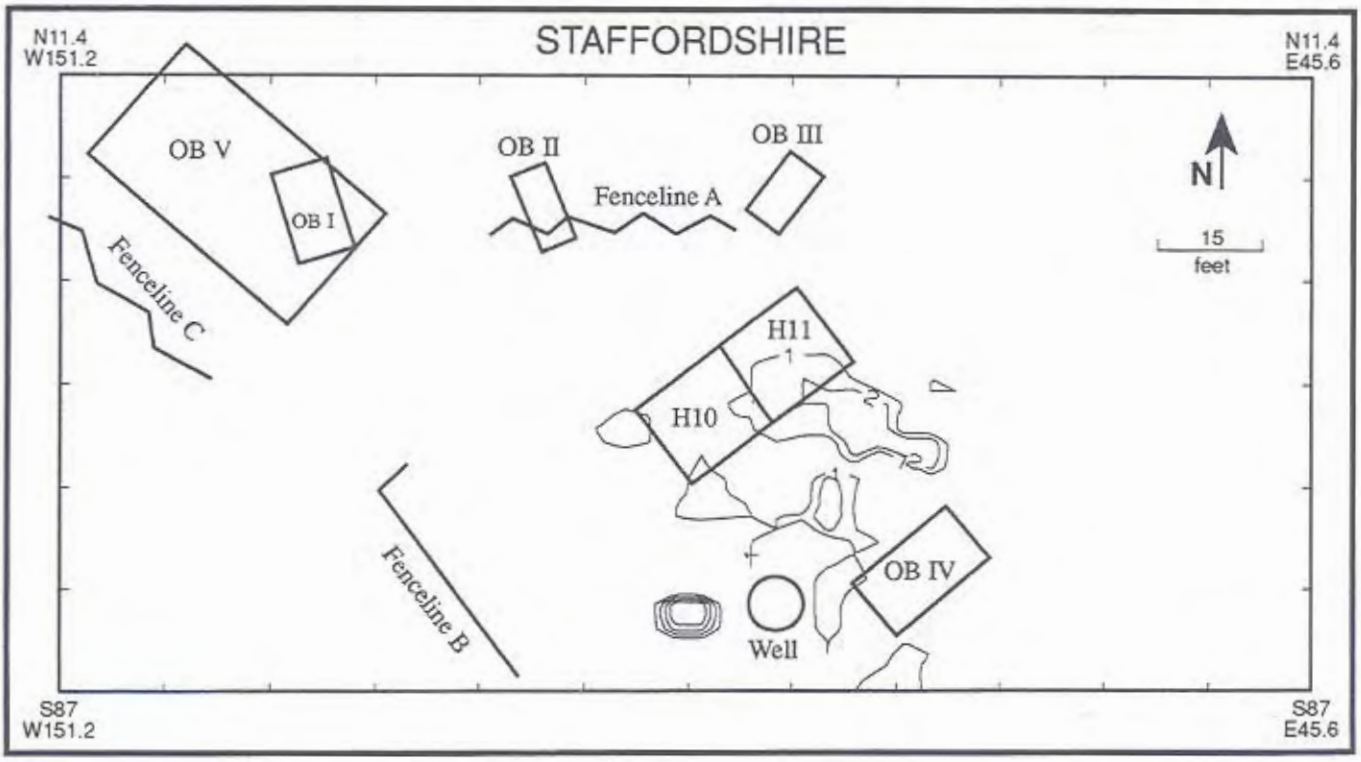



FIGURE 84

Distribution of Stoneware, John Powell Plantation

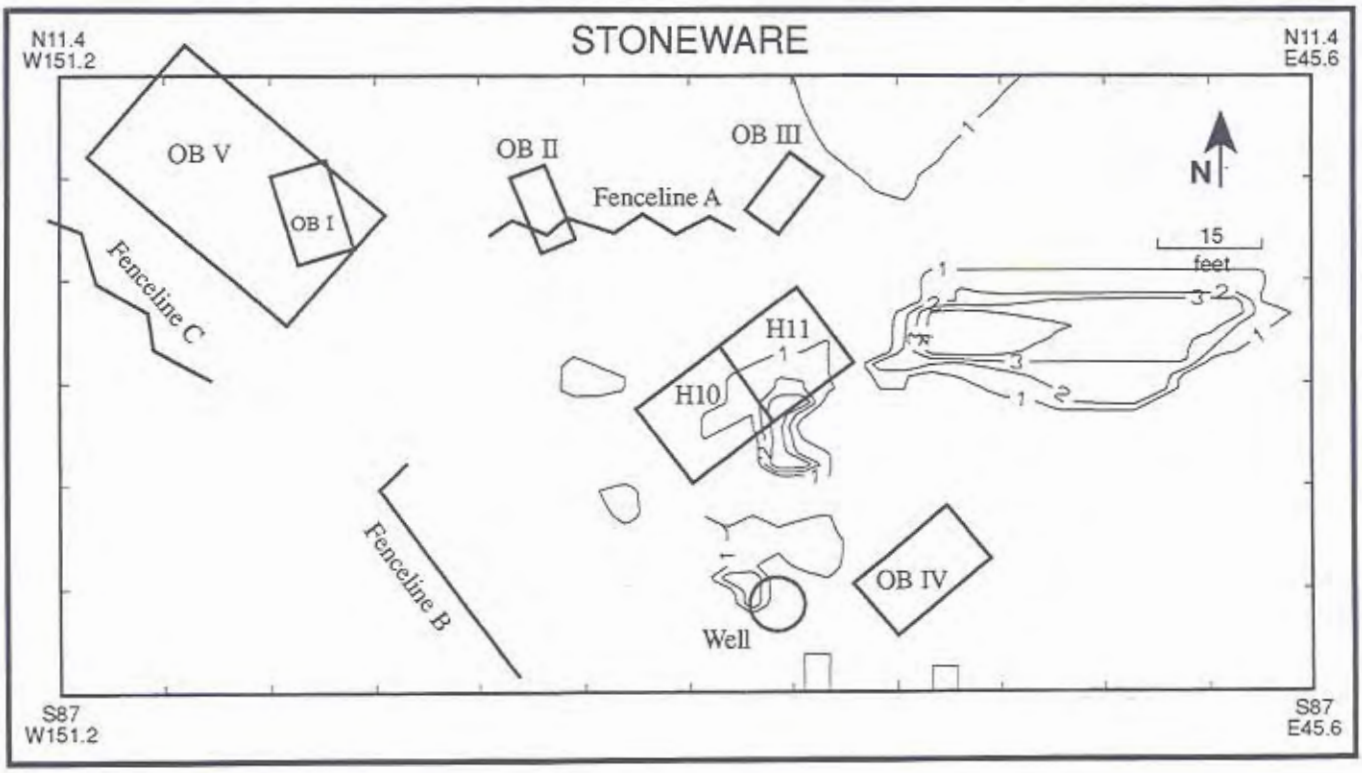
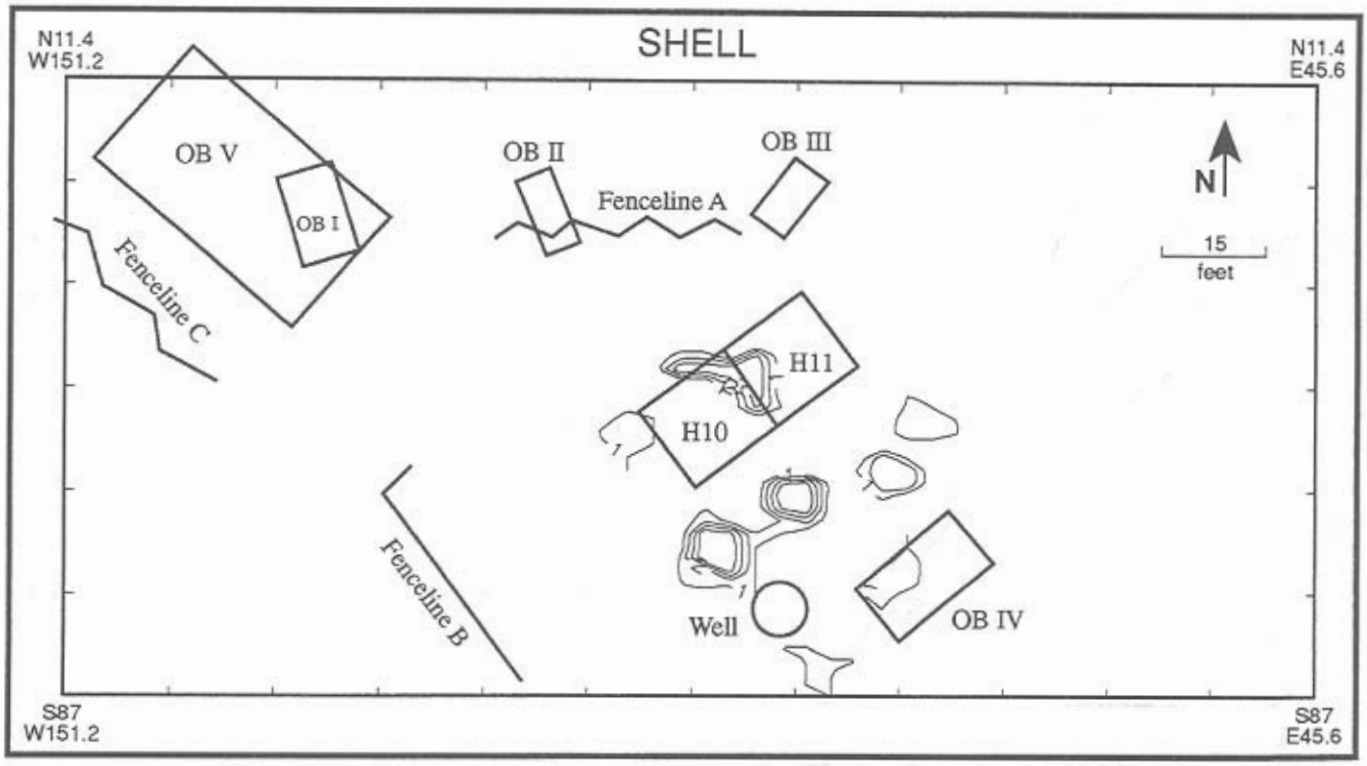


FIGURE 85

## Distribution of Shell, John Powell Plantation




The presence of daub/trash pits, but not high plow zone ceramic densities suggests that household garbage was generally deposited in excavated trash pits where possible. In the front and east side yard where no such pits were available, broken ceramics and other trash became yard scatter. High ceramic artifact densities in the front rather than rear yards may also indicate differences in how intensively they were used. The differences in historical ceramic densities may be changing trash disposal patterns between the initial occupation of the site by the Powells and later tenants. The Powells may have disposed of their trash in daub/trash pits while the later tenants simply scattered their refuse over the front yard. This hypothesis, however, is impossible to test because of our inability to date precisely the ceramic artifacts found. All of the wares, particularly the redwares and European stonewares, were produced throughout the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

The distributions of oyster shell, olive bottle glass, and arms-related artifacts are shown in Figures 85 - 87. Low densities, only one to two artifacts per test unit, of all three artifacts were found over the site. Concentrations of shell (Figure 85) and olive bottle glass fragments (Figure 86) typically identify trash disposal areas. The distributions of both artifacts confirm the presence of a large sheet midden of domestic refuse in the front and east yards of the two domestic structures. Oyster shell densities were largely confined to the front yard between the houses and the well and Outbuilding IV. Occasional olive bottle glass fragments were found over the daub/trash pits and north of the houses near Outbuilding III. Artifact densities in these areas, however, were very low (less than two artifacts per unit).

The distribution of gunflints is shown in Figure 87. Gunflints were in two areas of low artifact density, less than two artifacts per test unit. The first area was along the south and west walls of the first house (Feature H10) and the south wall of the second house (Feature H11) and also extended slightly

FIGURE 86

Distribution of Olive Bottle Glass, John Powell Plantation

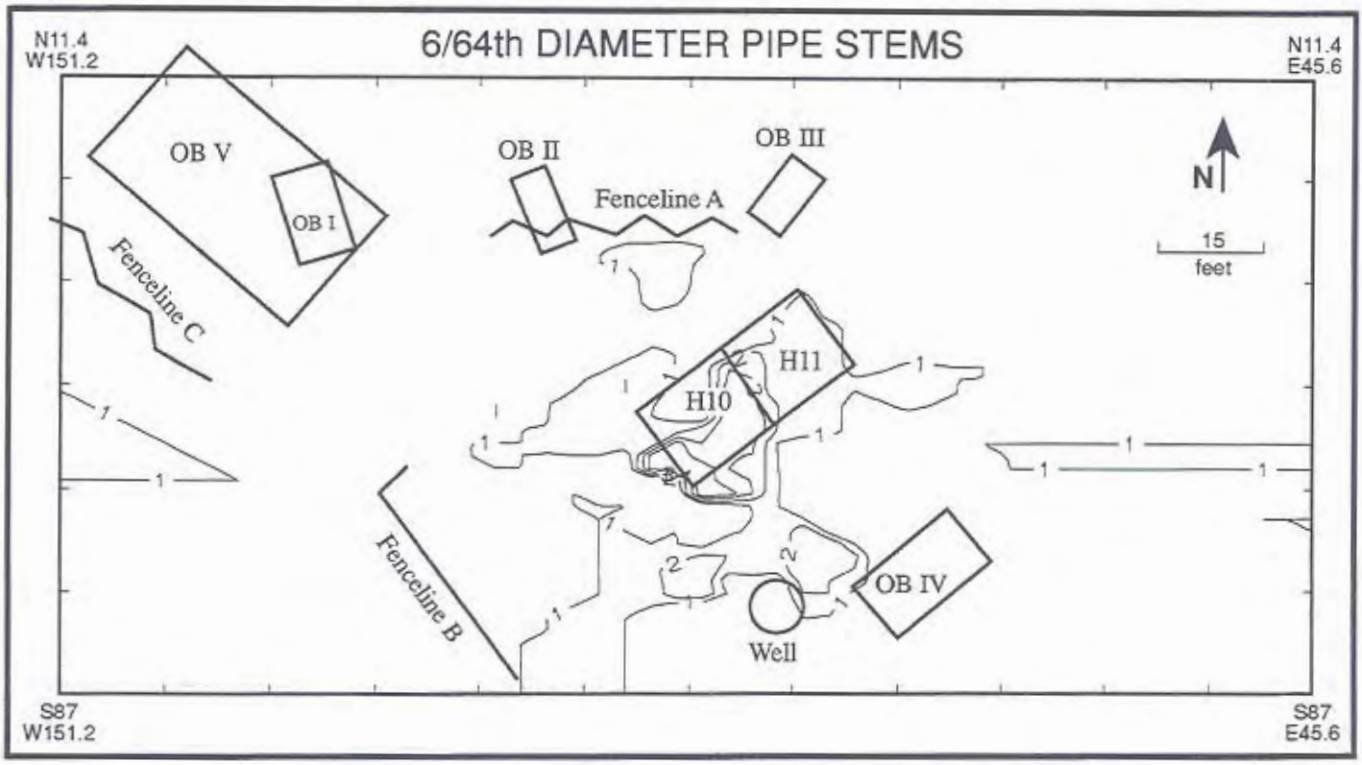



FIGURE 87

Distribution of Gunflints, John Powell Plantation

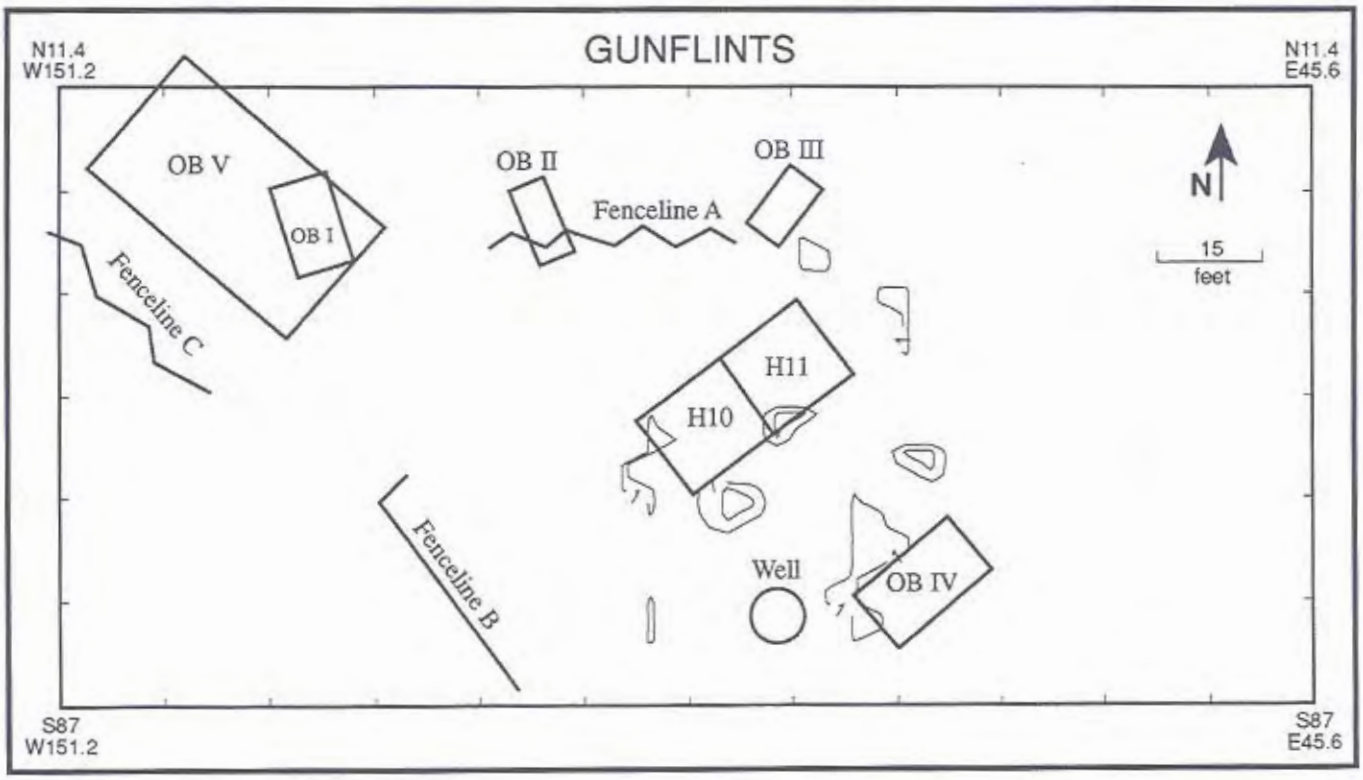
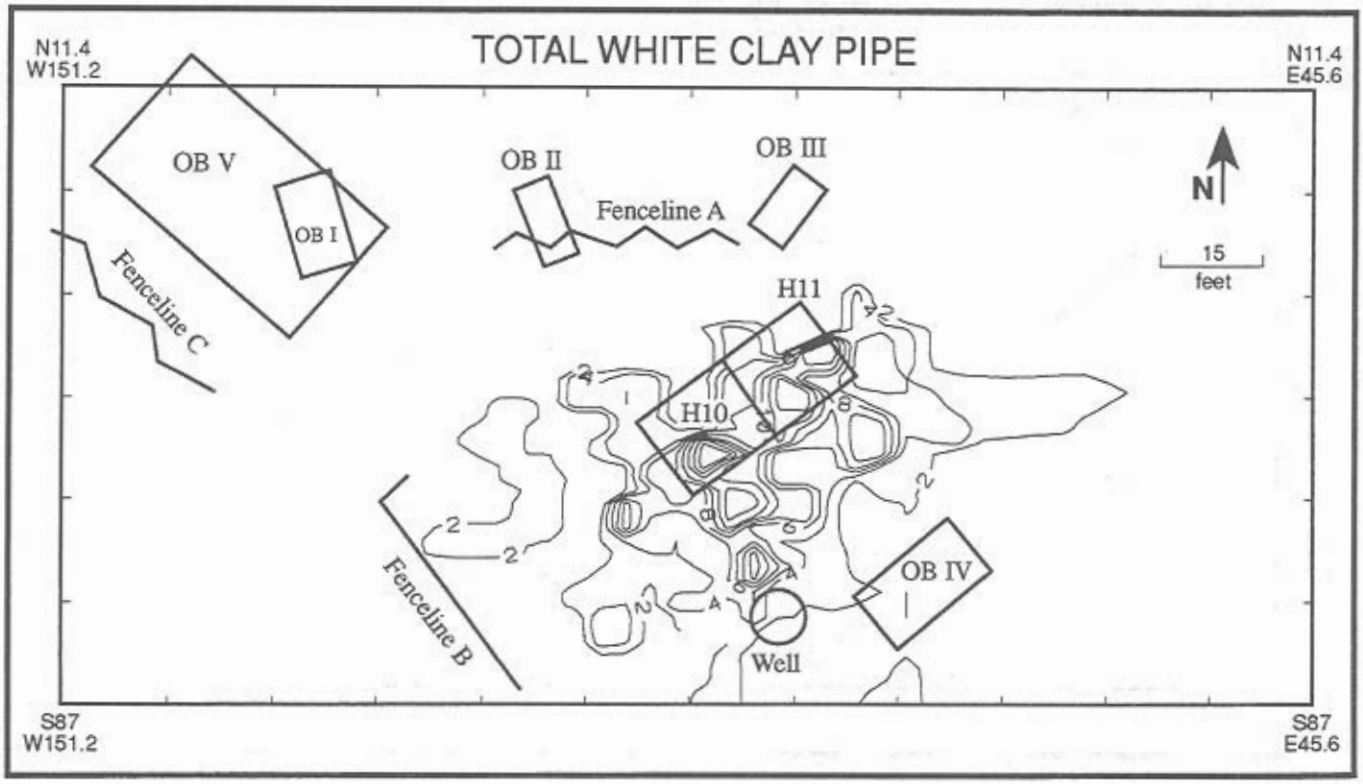


FIGURE 88

## Distribution of Total Pipes, John Powell Plantation




into the front yard. Pogue (1991) interpreted similar concentrations of gunflints along the exterior walls of the King's Reach Plantation as evidence of specialized gunflint maintenance activity where better light was available. Gunflints were also found along the eastern edge of the site between Outbuildings III and IV. Densities were once again very low, less than two artifacts per test, but were consistently located within 20 feet of the houses. The proximity of gunflints to the two houses is consistent with intensive gunflint maintenance activities evident in the small, heavily reworked gunflints themselves.

White clay pipes were distributed similarly to historical ceramics and other non-ceramic domestic artifacts (Figure 88). Pipe fragment concentrations were highest over the two houses and the front yard. Artifact densities ranged from 4 to 12 artifacts per test unit over the houses and front yard and graded to a uniformly low density (less than two artifacts per test) by the well and Outbuilding IV.

The distributions of different pipe bore diameters were analyzed for evidence of changing trash disposal and activity areas over time. All 5/64th- and 6/64th-inch diameter pipes were mapped separately (Figures 89 and 90). Too few 4/64th- and 7/64th-inch pipes were found to map accurately. Harrington (1954) found that 72 percent of 6/64th-inch diameter pipes were used between 1680 and 1710. Most 5/64th-inch diameter pipes (72%), however, were used between 1710 and 1750. The cut-off date of 1710 for the two pipe diameters is close to the 1720 change in occupation at the Powell Plantation. Thus, differences in the distribution of 5/64th and 6/64th diameter pipes may indicate changes in trash disposal and activity areas between the two occupations of the site.

FIGURE 89

Distribution of 6/64th Diameter Pipe Stems, John Powell Plantation

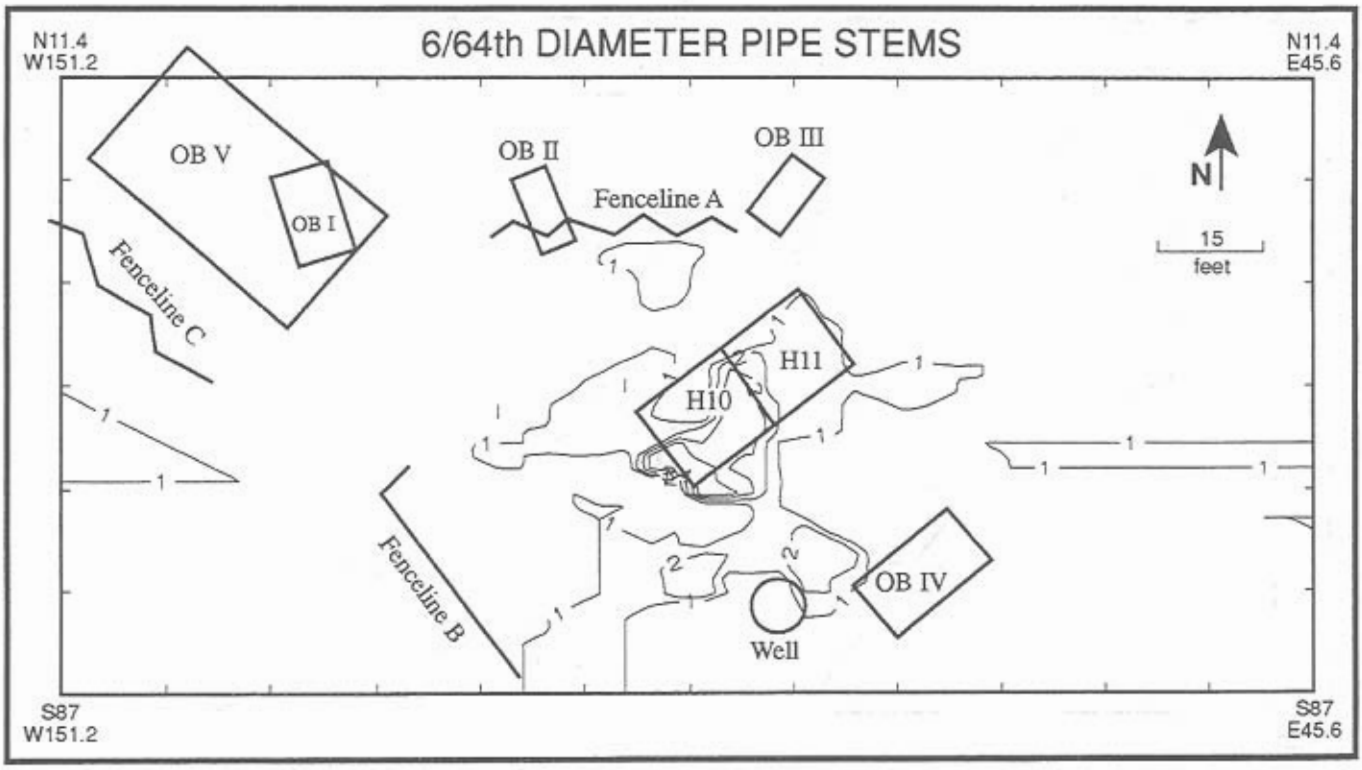
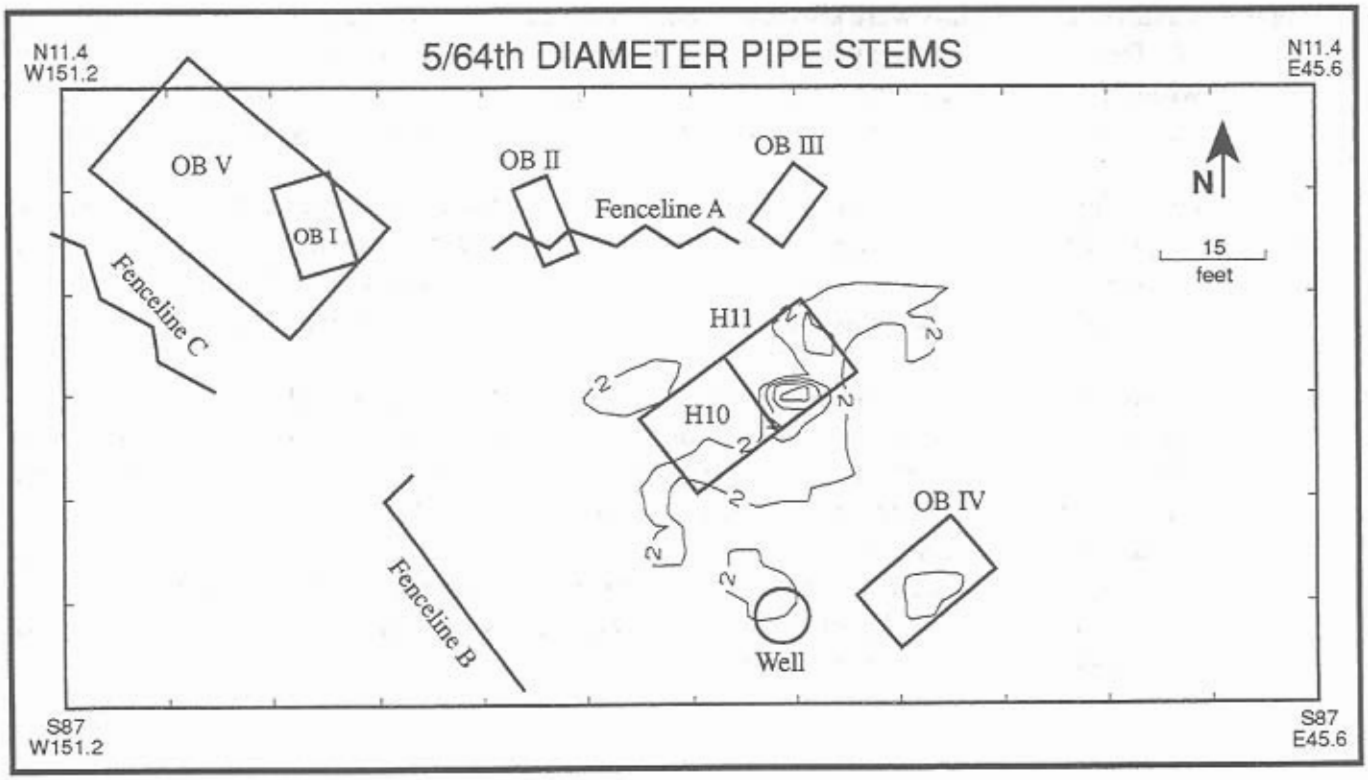



FIGURE 90

Distribution of 5/64th Diameter Pipe Stems, John Powell Plantation



Both 5/6th- and 6/64th-inch diameter pipes were concentrated over the two houses and the adjacent front and east yard areas (Figures 89 and 90). Earlier, 6/64th-inch diameter pipes, however, were distributed over a much larger area around the house than later, 5/64th-inch pipes. Earlier pipes from the Powell occupation were also found in three outlying areas where no later pipes were found. These three areas were near the western edge of the site near Fenceline C, the northern edge of the site along Fenceline A and the eastern edge of the site beyond Outbuilding IV. The presence of earlier pipe fragments in these outlying areas suggest that the Powells used and disposed of pipes over a much larger area than the later tenants.

In conclusion, plow zone artifact densities identified two primary activity and trash disposal areas. The most intensively used area was the front yard of the houses along the south side of Features H10 and H11. The front yard was bounded on the south by the well and Outbuilding IV. Specialized activities including smoking and gunflint knapping took place alongside the house, probably near doorways and windows. Trash was casually deposited in the front and east yards and in daub/trash pits behind the houses. Very few artifacts were deposited near the four outbuildings along the northern and western edges of the site. The distribution of pipe stems probably used during the earlier Powell occupation suggest that people smoked over a much larger area of the site, perhaps even including some of the northern outbuildings.

In sum, the John Powell Plantation was owner-occupied by the Powell family from 1691 - ca. 1721 and then tenant-occupied from ca. 1722 - 1735. The identity of the tenants is unknown, but may have been members of the Powell/Pugh families. An earthfast house (Feature H10), three outbuildings (Outbuildings I, II, and III) and the well (Feature H39) were constructed by John Powell and his family as they worked to satisfy their mounting debts. An artist's reconstruction of the Powell Plantation ca. 1720 is shown in Figure 91. The early buildings are shown as ghost images in Figure 91.

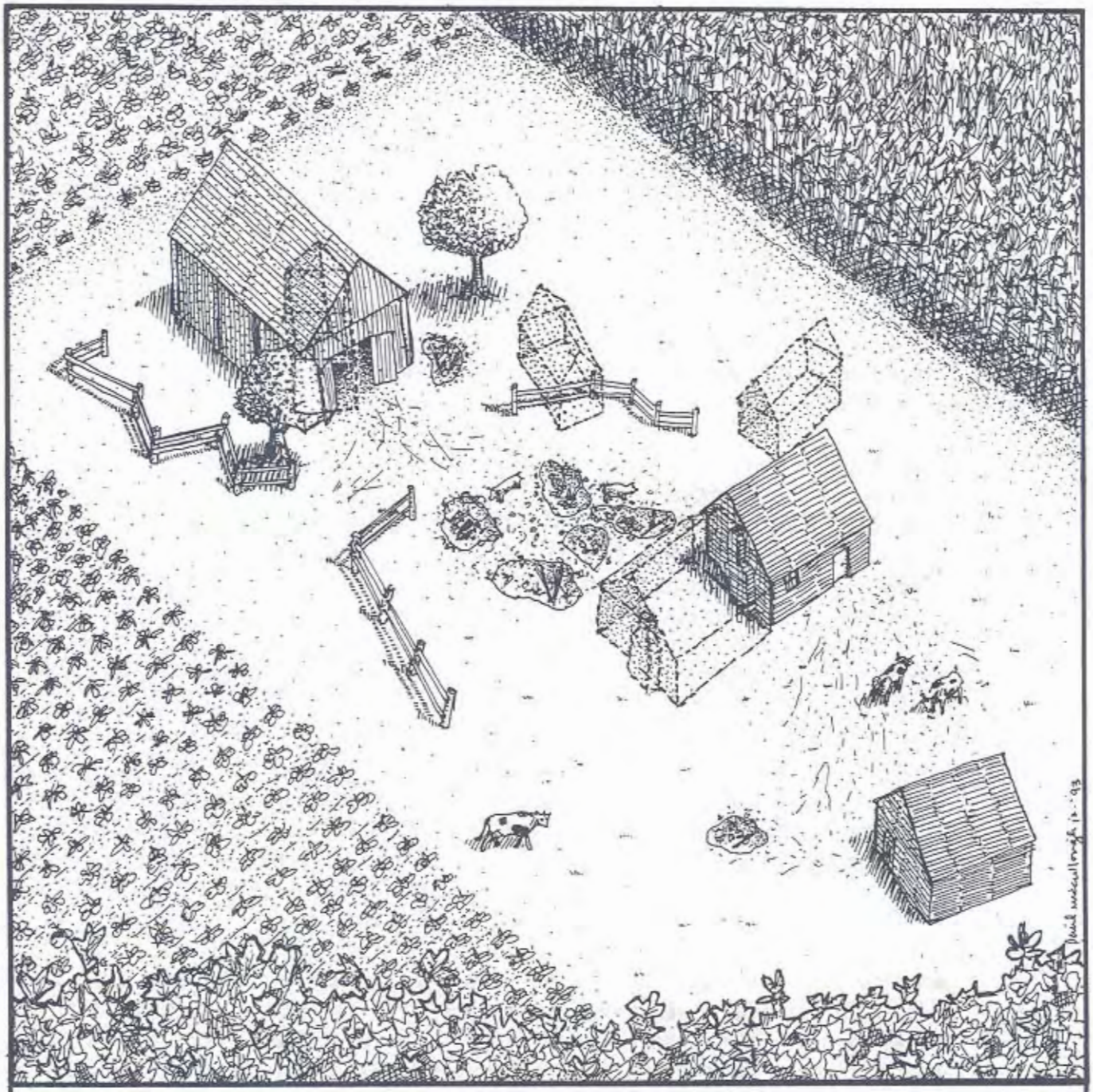
John Powell oriented his house to Alston Branch, an orientation preserved by the later tenants when they built the second dwelling, Feature H11. Daily activity during both occupations, including trash disposal, was concentrated in the front yard between the houses and the well. At least two other buildings were constructed during the tenant occupation. The largest of the structures was Outbuilding V, a 20- x 40-foot tobacco house along the west edge of the plantation. The second structure was Outbuilding IV, a barn or stable 20 feet west of the well. At least one fenceline, Fenceline A, was added along the north edge of the site. The construction of the tobacco house over the cellar hole of Outbuilding I and Fenceline A over Outbuilding II indicates that at least two of the three early outbuildings were gone by ca. 1721.

Behind the two houses was an intensively used rear yard. The rear yard was dominated by seven large daub/trash pits and other trash deposits. At least one of the daub/trash pits, Feature H47, was filled with trash from the later, tenant occupation. None of the other trash pits or deposits could be associated exclusively with either occupation. No evidence of fencelines along the heavily eroded eastern and southern edges of the site was found. Only minimal evidence of fencelines along the western edges of the plantation (Fencelines B and C) were found.

The artifacts from four deep features could be associated with the two occupations of the site. Artifacts from the storage pits of Feature H10 and the well, Feature H39, are the remains of the first, owner-occupation of the site by John Powell and his family from ca. 1691-1721. The assemblages from one trash pit, Feature 47, and the fill over the second house, Feature H11, date to the later tenant occupation from ca. 1722-1735.

FIGURE 91

# Artist's Reconstruction of the John Powell Plantation, Circa 1720 (Tenant Occupation)



N

NOTE: "Ghost" images are earlier buildings.